

## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



# THE MARYLAND FARMER:

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture, and Rural Economy.

Vol. XVI.

BALTIMORE, JULY, 1879.

No. 7.

## Correspondence between the New York State Agricultural Society and the Executive Department of Maryland, on Cattle Pleuro- Pneumonia.

The following correspondence of a highly interesting character, and disclosing important suggestions to every farmer in Maryland, and indeed in the whole Southern States, has been submitted to us by the Honorable Secretary of State of Maryland, for which he will receive our thanks, and no doubt the thanks of our whole people who are interested in cattle, whether it be from owning one cow or a large herd. Our much esteemed friend, the Secretary of State, seems to be under the impression that there is no such disease in Maryland cattle. We are happy to believe that such is the fact in regard to the cattle in nearly the entire State, in every part except a small section surrounding Washington City and in that City. Last winter and spring there were, as we have been credibly informed, many cases of the worse sort. Some persons met with ruinous losses; but it has either died out or been so hushed up, that of late, we have had no tidings of it. Maryland is derelict in its duty in having no energetic enactments on this subject among her Statutes. But unfortunately, all that which is calculated to advance or protect the interests of her husbandman, seems be lost sight of by her legislators, even in despite of the yearly suggestions of the Governors in their messages for years past. We trust that our present farmer-Governor will, with his usual ability, urge not only the measure of prevention and eradication of this terrible Murrain, but reiterate the other important measures he has heretofore suggested, touching the deepest interests of agriculture, and promotive of the advance of farming prosperity.

This subject is so important that we feel bound to put the whole matter before our readers, altho' by doing so, we curtail space which is usually allotted to other matters,

LETTER OF HON. R. C. HOLLYDAY.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE,

Annapolis, June 9th, 1879.

*Messrs. Editors of the Maryland Farmer:*

GENTLEMEN.—His Excellency, the Governor received the enclosed resolutions of the New York State Agricultural Society, forwarded by their Corresponding Secretary, F. L. Harison, Esq. The Governor being much engaged with executive business, placed the communication in my hand, with the request that I would respond. I accordingly did so, and having acknowledged the receipt of the resolutions and the great importance of the subject they treated of, (the cattle disease) stated to the Honorable Secretary that as far as we were advised, we were not aware of its existence among the cattle in Maryland; and asked as a favor that he would give us the best information as to the treatment of the disease (should it appear) both preventive and remedial.

I further informed the Honorable Secretary that in the Statutes of Maryland there were no Legislative enactments appropriate to the subject mentioned in the resolutions of the New York State Agricultural Society. And that in view of the importance of the subject they treated and the great necessity of proper sanitary measures against the spread of the cattle disease, the Governor would transmit these resolutions to the next General Assembly, which meets in January 1880. I also enclose you the interesting reply of the Honorable Secretary to my letter. If it meets your views, we would desire that through your columns, you present the subject of the cattle disease (Pleuro Pneumonia) to the Agricultural Societies of the State, that they may be able to present to the next Legislature some proper and precautionary plan to prevent its extension among the valuable herds in Maryland.

Will you, therefore, take these papers enclosed, under your charge and present them to your readers in such form as will best call their attention to

this very important subject — the prevention of the extension of the cattle disease in Maryland.

Very respectfully, R. C. HOLLYDAY,

Secretary of the State.

RESOLUTIONS ENCLOSED TO GOV. CARROLL.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the New York State Agricultural Society, held at Utica on the 2nd day of May, 1879, the following resolutions were duly passed:

*Resolved*, That while this committee is well aware of the fact that there is reasonable doubt whether the disease of neat cattle which exists, or has existed, in some milk dairies in Kings county, and in other counties of this State, and which has been pronounced by high veterinary authority to be identical with the contagious pleuro-pneumonia of Europe, is really that very contagious and destructive disease, and of the same virulent character and form as that in which it prevails now in Europe, and in which it appeared on the only occasion of its serious prevalence in the United States, in Massachusetts in the years 1859 and 1860, this committee nevertheless considers that the action of the State authorities in putting in force the law of 1878 for the suppression of this disease has been wise and proper; not only because the disease, whether its identity be or be not established, causes such an amount of loss to the milk-men who supply the cities of New York and Brooklyn, and so endangers the health of the inhabitants of those cities, by adding to the risk of their being supplied with unwholesome milk, that its suppression is a matter of public importance, but because, until it shall be suppressed, and while it is held by the veterinary advisers of the government of Great Britain to be the disease known to them as contagious pleuro-pneumonia, it constitutes an obstacle to the re-establishment of our trade with that country in live cattle and other stock, an obstacle which the State of New York, and other States in which the disease is reported to exist, ought to remove, in deference to the interests of all the States which are benefitted by this trade.

*Resolved*, That this committee respectfully thanks the Governor and Legislature for their prompt action in taking measures to control and suppress the disease in question, in amending the act of 1878 so as to make its provisions more effectual and its administration more economical, and in supplying the money so far required.

*Resolved*, That since the disease in question is reported to exist, or to be occasionally found in the States of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, in the neighborhood of the large cities of those States, and in the neighborhood of

Washington, though not extending into the country, or, as yet, found at any place far from the seaboard, it is the opinion of this committee that the suppression of the disease can only be accomplished by the concerted and harmonious action of the authorities and legislatures of all the States so far involved, and that if such concert of action cannot be promptly secured, the importance of the subject and the emergency of the occasion are such as to excuse, if not to justify us, notwithstanding the State of New York has both the will and the power to execute the work within her own boundaries in asking the action of Congress and of the general government to bring about the result desired.

*Resolved*, That a sub-committee, of which he shall be chairman, be appointed by the President of the Society for the full consideration of this subject, that this committee be instructed to present the views in the foregoing resolutions set forth, to the executive authorities and to the legislatures of the several States concerned, and to the President of the United States, and to take such steps as may seem expedient to promote the object of relieving this country from even the suspicion of harbouring infectious or contagious disease.

*Resolved*, That copies of these resolutions be transmitted to the Governor and to the Legislature, to the senators and representatives of this State in Congress, and to the Governors of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia.

A true copy, from the minutes.

Attest,

F. L. HARRISON, Sec'y

NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Albany, May 26th, 1879.

SIR.—I am in receipt of your letter of the 23rd instant, and beg to acknowledge with thanks the kind assurance of co-operation in the suppression of contagious pleuro-pneumonia of cattle on the part of His Excellency, the Governor of Maryland.

I regret very much to observe that it is necessary to await the meeting of the General Assembly in January next, from which I am led to presume that Maryland has now no Statute on the subject of contagious diseases of animals, or at any rate none that is considered applicable in the present emergency. This, however, is of less consequence, provided it shall be found that pleuro-pneumonia does not now exist in the State. I have no information on this point, but it seems improbable that the disease should exist in Pennsylvania and Virginia, (as we know that it does at this time), and not in Maryland.



In this connection, permit me to call your attention to the fact that under the Act of Parliament, now in force, (known as the contagious diseases animals Act), so long as pleuro-pneumonia exists in any State of this Union to any extent, however limited, the English Privy Council has no description but must compel all cattle from the United States to be slaughtered at the port of arrival. In other words, our trade with Great Britain in live cattle cannot be carried on, except under that onerous condition, until we can show that our whole country is absolutely free from the disease.

The restoration of the trade is, of course, most important to the great cattle growing States of the West, but it is, of course, indirectly important to the sea-board States, and also directly so far as it will inure to the benefit of their railways and sea-ports.

I beg to suggest that it would be very useful at this juncture, and that it will involve little trouble or expense to ascertain, as a question of fact, whether there is, at this time, any pleuro-pneumonia in Maryland, and if so, where? The information now obtained would be available next winter, and even at the present time it may be that local Boards of Health possess some powers, which may be applied usefully, perhaps effectually. This consideration is of more pertinency because the worst centres of infection are invariably in the dairy stables in or near large towns.

At the same time I may be excused for suggesting that even though no contagious or infectious disease of domestic animals exist now in Maryland it is still necessary to provide by law some means of dealing with the subject, since the State may at any time be invaded either by Texas fever or pleuro-pneumonia, to say nothing of other diseases.

With reference to the question as to the treatment of pleuro-pneumonia, preventive or remedial, I beg to refer you to the volume, by Professor John Gamgee, "The Cattle Plague, with Official Reports of the International Veterinary Congresses, held in Hamburg, 1863, and in Vienna, 1865," published by Hardwick, London, 1866, in which the opinions of many eminent European Veterinarians are given at length, their several experiences and their very unanimous conclusions as to the essential points. Also to the brief but quite comprehensive essay on pleuro-pneumonia, by the able English Veterinarian, Mr. George Armatage, published in the transactions of the Highland Agricultural Society of Scotland for the year 1870, and reprinted in this Society's (N. Y.) transactions of 1869, a copy of which I shall be happy to send to His Excellency, the Governor, as well as to yourself if desired, and I may add that preventive measures alone seem to

be useful, that is to say, measures for preventing the introduction and propagation of the contagion. The only course to be pursued with animals attacked with the disease, being to kill them at once; all other treatment having been proved by experience to be unprofitable and impolitic.

Yours very respectfully,

T. L. HARISON, *Sec'y.*

The Honorable R. D. HOLLYDAY,

Secretary of State.

We do hope that the State and County Agricultural Societies will take action upon this subject, as suggested by Mr. Hollyday, and that farmers clubs, grangers and Dairymen's Associations in the different counties of Maryland will take this matter into serious consideration, and express by resolutions or otherwise their views and wishes, either to the Executive or to the Legislature. The subject is of too vital importance to be ignored by our breeders and owners of cattle.

### FARM WORK FOR JULY.

The labor on the farm, this month, is required by the exigencies of the season to be steady and constant, admitting of no delay. The heat is generally very great and the days are long, and man and beast seem this month to suffer greater fatigue than during any other month of the year, hence a bountiful provision of plain food should be provided, to be partaken of often and sparingly at a time; laborers should be careful against excesses in drink, avoiding both very cold water and strong stimulants. The day's labor should begin at the earliest dawn and end when darkness begins, taking a short interval for lunch at 11 o'clock and a long one about 1 o'clock. Thus recuperating their energies in the middle of the day, when the rays of the sun are most hot and enervating.

The clover crop, we presume has been harvested, and the corn ready for its last working, unless it was planted late. This crop requires, at this period, good cultivation, at least once a week, until it shows signs of tasselling. The double iron shovel plows are the best implements for its cultivation. At its last working, sow from 2 to 2½ bushels of cow peas or black peas broadcast, and shovel them in. They will be a famous green crop to plow under for wheat or other grain. That part of corn land intended for rye, may in like manner be sown in rye. Clover may be sown at the same time, if there is a likelihood of immediate rain, it can be sown after the rye is put in on the newly worked-up soil. We have seen splendid crops sown in this way, and next year will be in blossom soon after the rye has been cut.

## HARVEST.

As a general rule, harvest is over, but this is an exceptionable year, as the peculiar winter put back the grain, and the dry weather of April and May, still further extended it, so harvest is unusually late this season, and our suggestions may not come too late. For years we have advocated cutting wheat at the earliest possible stage of growth after it begins the "dough state." We are glad to see that our views, based as they are upon years of personal experience, fully supported by that astute old farmer-editor of the *Germanstown Telegraph* in a recent issue of that popular weekly. What he says, is so well said and so condensed that we give it, rather than repeat our more voluminous views expressed years ago and sometimes repeated, as to

## WHEN WHEAT SHOULD BE CUT.

"There has been some diversity of opinion as to the best time to cut wheat, judging from the common practice of farmers. It is generally cut when dead ripe, or at least when the grain has become hard. This is, no doubt, an error, and one of more importance than many suppose. It should be remembered that wheat is composed of gluten, starch and bran. Gluten is the nourishing quality of the grain, makes the flour stick together in the hands of the baker, and gives weight to the grain—and there is the *greatest* quantity of gluten in the grain, *just when the straw is yellow two or three joints from the ground, the head turns downward, and you can mash a grain between your thumb and finger without producing any milk.* It may therefore be set down as an indisputable truth that every day the wheat stands after this stage of its ripeness, the gluten decreases in quantity and the bran increases in thickness, while also there is danger of rust, which usually makes its appearance during the last ten days in June."

## TOBACCO.

We hope we are not mistaken in believing that the tobacco crop has all been planted, wed out, "barred" and budded with plaster. If the worms attack it badly, we do not hesitate to recommend you to mix one or two pounds of dry Paris Green with one bushel of plaster, and sow broadcast when there is a calm; from what we have learned from reliable parties it is a more effectual remedy against tobacco worms than against the potato beetle. Dr. Pollard, Commissioner of Agriculture of Virginia, recommends it for the total destruction of the tobacco fly in the beds. In addition, use cobalt freely in the flower cups of the Jamestown weed to kill the horn-blower, which lays the millions of eggs, that soon hatch the nasty worms. Encourage the hands and the children on the place to kill every horn-blower, by giving so

much ahead,—a half cent even per head—for every one of these pernicious butter-flies.

Tobacco planters should not plant more than they *can cultivate on rich soil, take care of, and cure well*. They should now take time by the fore-lock, and inform themselves as to the advantages (said to be wonderful) of the successful processes of curing and conditioning, recently practiced by the Tiltott Brothers in Pennsylvania, and the Barnett method in Virginia, rather accidentally discovered by a young planter of that name. The *Southern Planter and Farmer*, speaks of it as a wonderful discovery, by which color is certain to be obtained, and texture and other qualities improved, almost to any shade or degree required. This too, is accomplished at the comparatively small outlay of money, and requiring ordinary intelligence to acquire the requisite skill. The effects of this process are astonishing. The enormous prices that tobacco has brought when cured by this new process of Barnett, has caused a furor of excitement in the Southern tobacco regions. Tobacco growers of Maryland, if you will stick to the growing of the old weed, and wish to get remunerative prices, you must keep up with the progress of the age in all things connected with your profession, by reading, travelling, spending a few dollars in going to see these improved methods and paying for the secret. Seeing is believing—what would an outlay of \$100 be, compared with your gain, if you could be sure of the method, which if followed would raise the value of each 100 pounds of your tobacco from \$4 or \$5 to \$50 or \$75. We honestly believe that a different system from that now generally pursued, in the culture and curing of Maryland tobacco, would enhance the price of the article ten times over; at least, instead of being quoted at from \$1.50 to \$10 per 100 pounds, it would be quoted from \$10 to \$50 and \$100 per 100 pounds; at the last named price, tobacco cured by the Barnett method, sold readily this year and last year also.

## STOCK OF ALL KINDS.

If possible, let your stock of all kinds have a good pasture, with a clear running stream, or plenty of water freshly drawn, at least four times a day from the pump or well, and good shade where they have a free circulation of air. They should have access to salt at all times when on grass, or if they are soiled, a little salt should be sprinkled over their food. Lately, among other wild theories started by chemical men who seek notoriety by announcing theories at war with nature and common sense, we see one says salt is not necessary, but rather detrimental to the good health and condition of cattle—Bosh!—and a



Mr. Thomas J. Hand, a noted breeder of Jerseys, in West Chester county, New York, says in the *Monthly Bulletin*:—

"I have given my cattle no salt for several years while on grass—but the pastures have been dressed with a mixture containing some sulphate of soda—and none in winter except what they got in the hay, which had been moderately salted when put into the barn. Toward the end of the past winter, however, they seemed to relish better, and to eat cleaner their scalded feed of chaffed corn fodder, bran and meal, when a little salt was added as a condiment."

This is intended to support the foolish theory, but only proves the necessity of that condiment, pronounced by the Saviour of men, as the "savor of life." If salt was not a necessity for animals, why does the instinct of the deer and buffalo, and other animals lead them for many miles to salt-licks? *Our readers*, we are sure, have too much sense to be led astray by these crazy theorists, and will not neglect to obey the recognized laws of hygiene, in furnishing their cattle of all sorts with all the salt that they require.

#### ORCHARDS.

Should be well attended to, and all caterpillar nests destroyed by burning with a bunch of lighted straw, or be taken off by hand and effectually destroyed. If not done before, they can now be dressed with a wash of soap-suds and ashes, with a little sulphur and salt. Fowls and pigs should have access, if possible, to the orchard to catch the insects and eat up the falling fruit before the curculio and other pestiferous insects lay their eggs or hatch their young.

#### Garden Work for July.

As a general suggestion, we would say: keep the soil stirred by frequent use of the rake and hoe; never suffer grass or weeds to get an inch high; water in dry weather, one heavy watering once in three or four days is better for most plants than a daily sprinkling. The labor in the end amounts to about the same thing.

**Cabbage.**—Plant out cabbage. Flat-Dutch, American Drumhead Savoy, and Winingstadt, are the best varieties for winter, and the three constitute a nice selection to suit all tastes and for different purposes. Prepare the ground by liberally manuring and thoroughly spading or deep plowing and raking. Embrace moist, cloudy weather for setting out the plants. The grub-worm is apt to cut off the young plants. If you fear it, sow salt

freely over the ground and rake it in a few days before you plant. Another pest is the cabbage worm, which appears about the time the plants are forming heads.

**The Cabbage Worm.** has become no longer an occasional visitor, but a serious enemy to be dreaded. Thousands of cabbage were entirely destroyed last year in this section of the country. The pretty white or yellowish white butterflies that come in swarms in July, August and September, visit every cabbage plant and deposit millions of eggs, which in a few days hatch, and the worms grow as fast as the tobacco worms, by feeding on leaves of the cabbage, soon rendering each plant a disgusting mass of tattered leaves and worms. Every one of these butterflies should be killed if possible, as soon as they appear. We know of no remedy, except that of constant attention for a few days with long light paddles to beat them down with death blows.

**Cauliflowers and Broccoli.**—Set these out and treat as directed for cabbage.

**Cucumbers and Gherkins.**—Plant seeds of cucumber and gherkin—a small bur-cucumber for pickles—also plant a few hills of canteloupe for pickle mangoes.

**Dwarf Beans.**—Sow at intervals a few rows of these for a succession.

**Endives.**—Sow seeds for a full crop.

**Small Salading.**—Sow seeds of these at intervals of ten days to keep up a continuous supply.

**Celery.**—Celery plants for the principal crop should be set out during this month. Do not neglect to plant largely of this wholesome, toothsome vegetable; cultivate it well and let it not suffer for water. Your time and labor will be greatly rewarded the coming winter. It is the most profitable crop grown in the garden.

**Radish.**—Sow some seeds occasionally during the month—the yellow turnip rooted variety is best for this period of the year.

**Spinach.**—Sow a few drills of spinach for fall use; the soil should be very rich and well prepared.

**Leeks.**—Set these out this month.

**Peas.**—Sow toward the close of the month a few rows of marrow-peas. Choose a rather shady place for the bed, and water the young vines well and frequently after they have made their appearance. They should be planted at least 3 inches deep to protect the roots from the hot sun. Work them often, and draw the earth to the vines at each cultivation of the ground.

**Pot and Medicinal Herbs.**—Slips of all kinds of pot and medicinal herbs may now be set out to

form rooted plants. To facilitate their striking root, set the slips in well prepared ground in a shady situation, choosing a soil that is rather moist in preference to one that is dry. Keep the soil moist, and do not let the slips suffer for water after they take root, nor allow them to be choked by weeds.

*For the Maryland Farmer.*

### The Grange Socially.

In the May number of the MARYLAND FARMER, I proposed to show somewhat of the practical workings of the Grange, and having divided up and enumerated its objects, I shall, in this number speak of the social advantages of the order. In a recent trip in Southern Virginia, I visited Walker Grange, in what is known as the Lockleren neighborhood, Lunenburg county. It was raining quite hard and I hardly expected to find a quorum present; what was my astonishment when on entering the hall room after the Grange opened, I found it well filled, about forty-five or fifty members being present, and fully one half being *ladies*. Here was a successful Grange, because people that were not thoroughly interested in the proceedings would not have driven six, eight and some as much as fifteen miles through a rain storm to be at the meeting. And when I considered that the men present were farmers who had not had a "tobacco season" since early in January, (this was April), I was still more surprised to find them neglect their tobacco barns to attend the meeting of a *dead organization*(?) I watched the proceedings carefully, and before night, concluded I was well paid for my twelve mile ride to this

#### SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL GATHERING

of the farmers of the neighborhood. Here, once a month, the whole community, for a radius of ten miles, turn out and bring their families; here they have a gathering, which for sociability can not be surpassed. After the routine business of the order, the Grange in the middle of the day takes half an hour's recess for dinner, and the ladies produce from numerous baskets, heretofore stowed away, all manner of good things, which city chaps who have never been to a country pic-nic, camp-meeting or barbacue, can't dream of, much less imagine, and although the crowd is hearty and happy, they fail to dispose of the greater part of the bounteous supply. After dinner, Walker Grange discusses questions of agricultural interest, and four o'clock, the hour of adjournment always comes too soon. Every one goes home happier and more ready to work on the morrow and each succeeding one for the pleasures of grange day.

Walker Grange is but one of many similar bodies in all sections of the old Commonwealth, but of course it would be impossible to give more than a cursory account of even one Grange in these articles. In this connection it may not be out of place, to add that the Grange in south side of Virginia is prospering, and if it had no other attraction, its social feature would be sufficient to make it the strongest organization in the union.

VIRGINIA PATRON

### Among the Granges.

We have had, for want of room, to curtail the reports of the Granges by our correspondent, much to our regret.

At the Brighton Grange, No. 60, Montgomery county, Maryland, at its regular monthly meeting on the 2nd of May, among other matters discussed was the special question:— "*What is the best fertilizer for potatoes?*"

Brother Ellicott, stated his best crop raised by the use of lime and barn yard manure, a good many years ago.

Bro. Augustus Stabler, said the largest crop he ever saw was made by bone dust, applied heavily in the row.

Bro. Scofield, said he had raised good crops by applying bone and Peruvian Guano in the row; afterwards substituted lime for the guano, with equally good results; afterwards tried lime alone and failed; recommends fall plowing of a good sod, and thorough preparation and cultivation with liberal fertilizing for a good crop.

Sister Lawrence, stated that the Elmira Club had decided that wood ashes was the best fertilizer for potatoes.

Bro. Anderson, said his best crop was raised on bottom land to which nothing was applied.

Bro. Richard Lansdale, had applied several cart loads of scrapings, (wood pile, hen house, plaster, &c.,) with good results.

Bro. Lawrence, recommended a compound of plaster, lime, bone, potash and some ammoniacal substance: hen house or pen manure or guano, and moved in concluding the debate, that the above mentioned substances be considered, in addition to the proper preparation of the soil, sufficient for a good crop.

The worthy lecturer, gave suggestions on good milk buckets, and read several recipes, one of which was for repairing cracks and holes in iron vessels, following which the grange adjourned to meet Friday, May 30th, 3 P. M.

\*\*\*



*For the Maryland Farmer.*

### Mr. Benbow's Inquiry—Phosphates, General Properties, Value on Crops.

A pressure of duties at this season "permits" me to inform you that, much to the pleasure of your typhos, and doubtless to that of your readers, I must substitute for a lengthier essay and "wasting of space" of your July number, a brief ink-sketch, and that even this is more hastily thrown together than a thorough inquiry into the subject selected, would require. This subject I find in the inquiry of your correspondent, Mr. Benbow, in your May number, "how to add to bone dust at  $2\frac{3}{4}$  cents per pound, to make it a better fertilizer for grass, corn and wheat, at a less cost." To answer Mr. Benbow's query, fully would necessitate the discussion of one of the main classes of fertilizers, the phosphates, and bring with it a consideration of the different soil constituents, the different plant ashes and the scientific application of manures, a discussion not in place at this time.

I shall confine myself to noticing that the constituents of the soil entering into the formation of plant-food are the phosphoric, silicic and sulphuric acids, potash, lime, magnesia, iron and chloride of sodium. Every crop removes, according to the special plant, more or less of these constituents from the soil, and intelligent fertilizing is the art which replaces this draft, returns the abstracted elements to the soil, and thus prevents a decrease of the elements necessary for subsequent crops. In this restitution of plant-food, the phosphates play an important part, and may, for my purpose, be divided into two classes: the super-phosphates and the neutral phosphates—the former being common phosphates, in which by the addition of sulphuric acid, the insoluble neutral lime has been converted into a soluble acid salt. An analysis of bone gives: phosphate of lime 59.67, phosphate of magnesia 1.20, carbonate of lime 6.39, fluorid of calcium 2.05, organic matter 31.17.

By comparing this analysis with the list of elements necessary for plant food, it will be seen that a bone dressing covers the important elements of phosphoric acid, lime and magnesia. Another inquiry into the nature of phosphates shows that the super-phosphates are of readier diffusibility, and hence remain in the upper layers of the soil of a field, whilst the neutral phosphates sink into its lower strata—the action of super-phosphates is speedy but soon exhausted, that of the neutral phosphates slow but lasting.

Super-phosphates would thus be the fertilizers for plants extending their roots in the upper layers of the soil, as the cereals and corn; the neutral

phosphates for plants seeking their food in the deeper layers, like the grapes, clovers and root-crops. But the latter crops, in removing a much larger proportion of soil constituents than the cereal crops, removes an increased percentage of potash; this removal of potash holds also good for clover.

This general glance at soil constituents, elements removed by crops and the analysis of bones, before us, will enable us to consider Mr. Benbow's question "the more economical application of bone-dust upon grass, corn and wheat and root crops."

First. A saving may be effected in the *mechanical* part of the manufacture of bone dust, should the mills in Mr. Benbow's neighborhood grind raw bones. By a steaming of the bones for a couple of hours, and subsequent drying, the working power of the mill may be increased threefold, viz: a mill running five tons of raw bones, will, with less wear and tear, run fifteen tons of the steamed and dried bones. For grass and clover the bone dust might be very properly combined with wood ashes. These of course, vary in their constituents, but all contain a preponderance of potash, the application of which upon crops requiring a large percentage of potash, will be apparent.

In this connection it may not be out of place to allude to the importance of fertilizers rich in potash, upon beet root crops. These latter, remove vast quantities of potash from the soil, and as at this time, much attention is directed to the production of the beet; cultivators should, from the very start, keep in mind the preponderating demands upon fertilizers rich in potash, of this new claimant in American husbandry. For this crop it might be advisable to *compost* bone dust and ashes under a shed for a couple of months, for application to the deeper layers of the field, and apply heavy top dressing of well rotted stable manure.

For corn and the cereals, the application of super-phosphates would be in place. A treatment of the bone dust or the bones themselves by sulphuric acid, the bones being subjected in a vat to the action of dilute sulphuric acid, will make this change from neutral to super-phosphate.

In addition of some one of the salts of ammonia and a salt of potash, would make the fertilizer one of the justly valued ammoniacal super-phosphates used under different names, and slightly varied formulas as the best chemical fertilizers of commerce.

Intending at some future time to treat this subject more fully, and in detail it will afford me pleasure if I have been able to furnish Mr. Benbow with some of the information called for by his inquiry, and remain,

Very truly yours,

"HAYFIELD."

### Sugar Beet and Beet Sugar.

We give the following extracts from Mr. John Sparrow's letter to the *Maine Farmer* on the sugar beet in France and Germany. Mr. S. visited those countries last year with the especial object of learning all he could about the cultivation, preservation and manufacture into sugar of the sugar beet. At the proper time we shall again extract from this practical essay, though it was written in the form of a letter. Mr. Sparrow says:

"Some idea of the vast importance of this industry to Northern Germany may be had when I state (and that from the most reliable authority) that the number of acres put down to beets for the season of 1878 have been 400,000. Beets raised upon this land are 4,500,000 tons, and the sugar estimate is 450,000 tons, or 600,000,000 pounds, and with the molasses and pulp valued at \$63,000,000. The price paid to the farmer for beets delivered at factory or R. R., is twenty marks per ton with the crowns cut off, and less 6 per cent. for cash. The factory also pays to the Government the excise tax of four dollars per ton, on all beets after washing and preparation for the mill, are weighed by a Government officer, who has an office and scales in every factory. The scales are very ingeniously arranged, self registering, and a check upon the honesty or dishonesty of the official. This seeming high price for beets is somewhat modified by the drawback allowed on sugars exported, which is intended to be about the excise tax, less 10 per cent. for custom expenses."

In regard to its cultivation, he says:

**PREPARING THE LAND.** Deep plowing and thorough cultivation of the soil is absolutely necessary. Farmers commence this work immediately after harvest, plowing deep, cross plowing and harrowing.

**ROTATION OF CROPS ARE UNIVERSAL.** That is, beets are grown upon the same land but once in four years. Raw manures are not used on the land designed for beets this year for the reason that it generates more weeds than the patent manures. They use fertilizers to a large extent which contain a large amount of phosphate of lime.

**PLANTING.** The furrows are about 18 to 20 inches apart, and the drill drops the seed 8 to 10 inches apart. The object in having the roots so near together is to get smaller beets, which are richer in sugar, and easier kept covered, and the weight per acre is even more than of larger beets.

**CULTIVATION.** The beets make their appearance in from 10 to 12 days, and when large enough to distinguish from the weeds, is the time when the full energy and industry of the farmer is to be

employed. The weeds must be warred upon at once, and kept down, and if any seeds have not germinated, transplanting must be done to make up the deficiency. A cultivator and horse is used in the furrows, and hoe and hand weeding between the roots. After the first, second and third weeding, the work lessens, and the cultivation made comparatively easy. The roots must be well covered, as the crown or that above the ground is not rich in sugar, and therefore rejected by the manufacturer."

The San Francisco correspondent of the *Baltimore Sun*, writes that a French sugar maker of renown, has taken charge of a sugarie in California, and that he has for three years past dried all the beets at a factory in France. "And it is wonderful that the old clumsy chemistry of raw beets is not universally abandoned. This decides its adoption. Hereafter, instead of raw beets, full of bitterness, and with only 8 per cent. of sugar, our mills will use dried beets, yielding 50 per cent. of sugar. Instead of costing 7 cents a pound, half that sum will cover costs, and the same mill will produce three times the weight of sugar. Instead of working at most  $3\frac{1}{2}$  months in a year, it can be kept busy for 12 months. Instead of being dependent on the vicissitudes of the weather for every year's crop, supplies can be held in stock for two years ahead. Where there is waste steam, drying sliced beets cost \$1 a ton. Nearly all sugar will be No. 1 loaf quality. Let it be said no more that cane sugar can be made better and cheaper than from beets. Baltimore may yet be destined to outrank New Orleans as a mart for sugar. We beg to press this matter on your attention. It is not a doubtful experiment, nor are our figures suppositious."

The *American Cultivator* says: "France produced in the year ending September last, the enormous amount of over 800,000,000 pounds of beet root sugar in that country and all successful." This is a huge yield and worth at eight cents per pound \$64,000,000; and represents four millions of tons of beets, for which their farmers got fifteen millions of dollars. This is truly a "very doubtful experiment!"

HERE is the way some anonymous writer in an exchange, puts a quietus in the moths of the cut worm: "Set open half barrels or tubs in the field; put into them about a foot of water, upon which pour a thin film of kerosene. Put a brick or stone into the water and on it place a common lantern, lighted, during the nights of July and August. The moths will fly to the light and drop into the oil and water when they perish at once." This method is worthy a trial.—*Ex.*



# POULTRY HOUSE.



*For the Maryland Farmer.*

## BANTAMS.

The toy-terriers of the poultry yard, the Liliputian warriors of the run, the breed known as Bantams is peculiarly intended for the playthings and pets of the children, and the amusement and admiration of the older people of the house. The varieties are so numerous that I can hardly venture, within the limits of this article, to give your readers a full account of anything but the color distinctions and names. The general habits of the breeds are alike, their activity, restlessness, courage and enterprise, being only a shade different in the different classes.

The cut which heads this article is taken from a sketch of one of the most peculiar and beautiful of all of them, the Japanese. In color they are pure white except the tail-feathers, which, in the cock are black, laced with white, and in the hen, white, ending with a row of pure black. Their immense wings and dignified carriage make them very amusing pets, and they are rare and not easy to procure. Next in queerness are the Pekin and

the White Booted, the one being like a dwarf Buff and the other like a dwarf White Cochin. Perhaps two of the prettiest varieties are Golden and Silver Seabright, the former having a ground color of yellow, laced sharply with black, and the latter the same of white. Both having the rosecomb of the Hamburg breeds, from a cross of which they were originally bred and a strut and impudence peculiarly their own. Very similar to these are the Black and White Rosecomb, both resembling, in everything but size, the Black and White Hamburgs. Lastly come the legion of Game Bantams, each one a Sir Geoffrey Hudson in pluck and pugnacity, and the most showy and stylish to my mind of them all. These have undoubtedly been bred down from the original varieties of Games, resembling them feather for feather, and only differing in size.

There are Black, White, Grey, Dominique, Spangle, Ginger Red, Brown Red, Black Red, Silver and Yellow Duckwing, White and Red Pile and Blue. They are all beauties, and to draw a contrast or institute a comparison between them



would be, if not "to gild refined gold and paint the lily," to draw down on my head a host of reproaches, "each crow in this case thinking his own young the whitest," beyond a peradventure. Beyond being simply pets, Bantams have their uses being the greatest insect foragers of all the poultry tribe, and of an appetite for that species of game utterly disproportionate to their size. They are the Nimrods of the poultry tribe, and woe to gnat or fly that hovers within reach of the tiny gunners. They are of immense aid in orchard and garden, their small size preventing them from doing much harm by scratching, while gnat and beetle, worm and fly will seek a happier and safer clime soon after their arrival. They are good layers of tiny but delicious eggs, and the most fussy and affectionate of mothers. I know of no prettier, funnier sight than a little hen scarcely weighing more than a pound, clucking and fussing over a brood of little chicks, which looking like tufts of cotton wool, tumble and fly all around her. I only wish some of your readers, unfamiliar with Bantams, could see the four broods and mothers I have now out in my back yard.

T. B. DORSEY.

### To Bit a Colt.

The true way to bit a colt is not to bit him at all; that is, let him bit himself. When my colts are one year old I begin to teach them to hold a bit in their mouth.

The bit is of pine, some half inch in diameter and 5 inches in length. This piece of soft wood is held in the mouth by a cord tied to either end, and passing over the head back of the ears. The colt loves to have this in his mouth, because it enables him to bring forward the teething process. He will bite it and work it over in his mouth, and enjoy it hugely. He will welcome it, and will actually reach out and open his mouth for it, as a trained horse will for the bit. After a few days you can tie strings, making minature reins to this bit, and teach the colt the proper use of it. When this is done, he is ready for the regular steel bit. Put your bridle on with a leather bit, large and pliant; throw your checkline, if your bridle has one attached, into the pig sty, get into your wagon and drive off. This is all the "biting" a colt needs. Treated in this way, he will have a lively, yielding, sensitive mouth. He will take the bit bravely when working up to his speed, but yield readily to the driver's will. A horse, bitted in this sensible way, can be driven a forty-clip with the lines held in one, or be litted over a five-barred gate with the strength of a single wrist. It you do not believe it, try it and see.—*From W. H. H. Murray's Perfect Horse.*

## THE APIARY.

*From the American Bee Journal.*

### About Comb Foundation.

HERBERT A. BURCH.

The past dozen years have been fruitful in the production of new devices and methods of management designed to make apiculture a business at once safe, sure, and fairly remunerative; and of them all, comb foundation, in my opinion stands pre-eminent. Years ago, when a 5 or 10 lb. package of honey readily sold for 25 to 30 cents per pound, and that, too, in any quantity that could be produced, it was no difficult matter to make bee-culture a paying pursuit. But the changed condition of the country, which was the inevitable sequence of a desperate and protracted civil war, necessitates many changes in the management of the apiary. When production is limited and prices are high, quality and appearance of goods are of secondary importance—quantity alone being paramount. But now, when agricultural production in its every branch is crowded to the utmost and prices rule low, quality and attractiveness are of vital importance to the producer. The apiculturist who in the future pays expenses and realizes a fair income, will be the man whose goods meet the demands of consumers, commanding the highest market prices, and whose management produces tons of honey with the least expenditure of time and money. We must study to reduce cost of production to the minimum. The price of honey (as well as all agricultural produce) is likely to rule low for many years to come, and in no other way can we attain the best success.

Assuming, then, that the situation demands that we produce our honey as cheaply as possible, it follows that we must avail ourselves of every aid that will assist us in attaining this result. In the list of such aids, comb foundation stands at the head. Not that its use has always been attended with success, complete and satisfactory; for it has not. Many sad and expensive failures would falsify any such claim. But comb foundation, properly manufactured and rightly used, cannot, in my opinion, fail to give the most satisfactory results. It not only enables the apiarist to obtain straight worker combs for the brood apartment in any quantity desired, but materially assists him in producing comb honey at a cost far below any possible point that can be reached without its use.

Much has been said, of late, relative to the policy of using comb foundation in the surplus receptacles. Many of our best honey-producers decidedly object to the use of foundation in honey boxes, while others consider that the thin, flat-bottomed, or new style foundation, obviates all objections in this direction. I have tested foundation pretty thoroughly, and in my opinion it is very poor policy to use foundation, in any form,

in surplus boxes. Aside from considerations of policy—whether or not we are likely to lessen the market value of our honey—I think that for the production of honey cheaply, comb is every way preferable to use for starters. My experience has been that I can get two boxes filled with honey, by using comb starters, to one when foundation is employed. The difficulty has been, hitherto, in securing comb in sufficient quantity for this purpose. But right here foundation comes to our aid and removes this obstacle. Many of our readers will stop right here and say: "You tell us we must produce our honey as cheaply as possible; how are we to do this, if we must buy foundation in large quantities? The low price of honey will not warrant large expenditures of money, even for so valuable an article as comb foundation." Pause a moment, gentle reader. Do you remember when the dairy farmer began the experiment of feeding bran to his cows to increase the quantity of his products? Although the object sought was attained, many good people shook their heads and said: "It's too expensive, and will not pay." But to-day the dairyman who feeds most heavily makes the most money. Just so it will be with the apiarist. I venture this prediction: The man who rightly uses the most comb foundation, will realize the largest profit.

I have given you in general terms my ideas of the value of foundation. In my next I propose to give practical directions how to use it, in order to secure the best results.

HONEY—"THERE'S MILLIONS IN IT."—Mr Robert Thwaite suggests, in a communication, that it would be profitable for all farmers to keep a few colonies of honey bees. There is a large quantity of honey sold in Philadelphia, he says, which come from California and New York, and but very little from Pennsylvania. In 1876 Mr. J. S. Harbison shipped from six apiaries, in San Diego county, California, ten car loads of honey, each car containing 20,000 pounds, or 200,000 pounds in all. The annual income of this gentleman on his honey amounts to \$25,000 per annum. A gentleman in New York in 1874 sold 58,000 pounds of honey from his own apiaries. It is much easier, says Mr. Thwaite, to produce pasturage (in addition to natural resources) to supply 100 hives than to provide pasturage for 100 head of sheep, the profit on this being more than double that in sheep. The honey lost in California for want of bees to gather it is of more value than the gold gathered. It is estimated that the value of the honey crop collected annually is worth \$8,800,000. The wax is estimated at \$6,000,000, or a total of \$14,800,000. Of this amount \$1,200,000 worth of honey and 700,000 pounds of wax are exported, and, yet, says the writer, the culture is only in its infancy. Two Michigan farmers, both of whom own large tracts of cultivated ground, had informed him that the profit on their bees exceeded that of their farms.—*Ex.*

### Tobacco Inspections.

"We are pleased to see that our esteemed contemporary, the *Calveit Journal*, has come out in favor of free inspections of tobacco. The B. & O. R. R. Co. has now in operation a warehouse at Locust Point, at which a large quantity of tobacco from the West is received and inspected. There is no charge for either drayage or cooperage on tobacco sent to this warehouse—the R. R. Co. delivering the hogsheads directly at the warehouse and of course being responsible for any damage. On account of the inspection laws of this State, every Maryland planter is obliged to send his tobacco to the State warehouses. Our own people are therefore unable to enjoy privileges in our chief commercial city, which the farmers of Ohio and Kentucky gladly avail themselves of. The *Journal* very properly says that this ought not to be; and we hope brother Wilson will continue to advocate free inspections, until the old foggy laws which hamper the tobacco trade in this State, are so modified as, at least, not to discriminate against our own people."

We are pleased to see from the above editorial of our much respected exchange,—the *Port Tobacco Times*—that the best exponents of public opinion in the tobacco growing counties of our State are coming boldly to the front in sustaining our long expressed views on the subject of State tobacco warehouses. Let the matter be ventilated, and also let it not be forgotten that the "Tobacco Fund," as it is called, belongs to the peninsular counties of Maryland, and must, in the winding up of these political cauldrons, furnish to the overtaxed tobacco growers of Southern Maryland a relief to a large extent of their onerous burthens which the have borne so meekly through so many years of despondency and sore trial.

About a year ago the *Prairie Farmer* contained a recipe for keeping eggs a long time. It was simply to pack them in a cool place, small end down, in kegs or boxes filled with finely powdered dried earth, or common road dust, or sifted coal ashes. These settled between the eggs, kept them from access to the air, and prevented evaporation of the white or spoiling the yolk.

The experiment was tried last June, before the intensely hot weather that succeeded. On taking the eggs out of the packing they were as fresh and clean looking as if fresh laid. On testing them for the table, they could not be told from fresh ones. When these were put down eggs sold for six cents per dozen. They were worth 18 cents, or an advance of 200 per cent. when taken out.

The shell of an egg is a very porous carbonate of lime. Left exposed to the air, it passes through the shell and soon spoils the contents.—*Southern Live Stock Journal.*



## History of the Maryland Agricultural and Mechanical Association.

### CHAPTER XI.

During one of the pleasant evening meetings of the Society in October 1852, referred to in the last chapter, "Mr. Johnson, Secretary of the New York State Agricultural Society, being called upon, said—I have not been expecting to give you my ideas on the subject of agriculture, on this occasion. Your manner of conducting your meeting is something new to me, and I can not be supposed to be familiar with it. I will, however, give you my views in relation to some matters appertaining to a subject of interest to American farmers.

He then alluded to Mr. Webster's remark respecting the importance of agriculture,—it being the profession on which our country is to depend for her existence and permanency. He deprecated the practice of allowing the farmers to go uneducated, as though it were an unnecessary accomplishment for them to be possessed of learning. He thought this profession should rank first in this country, and urged that while agriculturists studied about cultivating their grounds, they should remember the farmer himself ought also to be cultivated. He regretted that there was in this country no State or National Institution where youths could be educated as farmers. If they desire this kind education they must repair to the despotic kingdoms of the Old World, there to learn how to do their duty in their own Republican land. He would like to see farmers so well educated that they might be competent to fill any position in the country, and not be objected to when named as candidates for office, because they do not know enough. Why, he asked, do farmers send their sons to the towns and cities to learn professions or stand behind the counter, but because their own profession is not appreciated. There are times though when the farmer is appreciated. When November comes round, then politicians call upon him and ask his aid; when the tax gatherers go round, then the farmer is found and his land brought into notice; when war breaks out, then too he is called on and asked to do the labor and suffer the privations.

Mr. J. next sketched an account of his travels in Great Britain, and spoke in high terms of the systematic manner in which the Scotch farmers conducted their business. In this respect they are superior to our farmers, keeping a debit and credit with their farms in each department, thus enabling them to continue their operations in complete or regular order. They are also more careful with the seed used. They plant no poor seed, but by a careful selection manage to get such as will improve the crop. They also are careful to destroy all the weeds in their fields, which is not the case with us. It is just as much expense to raise weeds as grain; and as the weeds will consume the strength of the manure and soil, more than the grain, they are really more expensive. He was of the opinion that by cultivating less soil, but in a better manner, farmers generally would be greatly advantaged.

The speaker was the overseer of the collection from New York, in the World's Fair, and gave an interesting history of his experience while there. He said the best specimen of wheat was from New York; being larger, heavier, and growing more to the acre than any produced elsewhere in the world. He also spoke of the plowing and reaping matches which came off at the close of the Fair, where American mechanism triumphed over the ingenuity of every other country; and very happily sketched many circumstances which occurred on that occasion. He said that Hussey's reaping machine failed in the wheat field where it was first tried because of the ignorance of the person who managed it and of the condition of the grain, which was wet, green and heavy. McCormick's (both American) was then tried and succeeded admirably in every respect. Hussey's was subsequently tried in a clover field, under the management of an American Mechanic, and succeeded admirably, entirely vanquishing the English machines.

Mr. J. spoke of the effects these triumphs had on the countries of the Old World. Several Governments having since purchased American machinery.

In conclusion, Mr. J. said that the Fair of the Society far exceeded his expectations, and he hoped it would not be said again that Maryland was not awake to the importance of this subject. She was awake and doing her duty, and if she would now only come up to the work and educated her sons to the profession of farming, she would do her whole duty."

This report of Mr. Johnson's remarks is taken from the *American Farmer*, Vol. 8, pages 239 and 240.

The eminent and enthusiastic farmer of that period, James Gowen, of Pennsylvania,—venerated for his agricultural experience, and venerable in years—was warmly received by the Society. On returning in a happy manner his thanks for so kind a reception, "alluded to the associations of by gone days, when he and others, most of whom have departed hence, were laboring to arouse the agriculturists of our Union to a just sense of the dignity of their profession, and to the improvement of their system of husbandry."

A meeting of the Executive Committee was held the 2nd of February, 1853, for the transactions of ordinary business and the awarding of premiums on crops. A few extracts from the proceedings, as published by the Secretary, are given to show the amount of corn, carrots and beets, were grown then per acre by the competitors for the prizes. Readers can compare them with similar crop products grown now by competitors in the same line, and draw their inferences as to the extent that agriculturists have advanced in farm production. Mr. Isaac Webster of Baltimore county, Md., received the \$20 premium for the best 5 acres of corn, having raised



an average of 90½ and 1 quart, bushels per acre. His certificate says:

My mode of cultivation was as follows: In February and March, I applied a dressing of 10 single ox cart loads of well rotted barn yard and hog-pen manure to the acre, spread upon an old Timothy and green grass sod, and turned down with oxen, about 10 inches deep. It was then well harrowed and rolled. On the 8th of May, drills were marked off 3½ feet and planted 2 feet distant in drill, at the same time applying to the corn, before covering, 4 ox loads of compost, (made of hog pen manure and wood ashes) to the acre. As soon as the corn attained sufficient size, the cultivator was passed twice through the row. The second working was done with the shovel plow, when it was thinned out to two plants to the hill. The third and last working was done with the cultivator, passing but twice through the row.

Mr. Wm. R. Barker, raised 70½ bushels per acre on five acres, which was a large yield when we consider that he used no manure. He says:

The field from which this product was taken contained one hundred and sixty acres and good judges say that the yield must be sixteen hundred barrels. The quality of the soil is rich loam, alluvial, and lying on the Patuxent river.

The mode of cultivation was as follows: The land was fallowed from clover ley, harrowed over and planted 4 feet each way, without manuring of any kind: 3 stalks were left in each hill—the corn cultivator was used three times before plowing; once plowed when the corn was 2 feet high, and then laid by with the corn cultivator. The ears of this corn I exhibited at the exhibition; they shell a quart to each ear, and contain nearly a thousand grains.

Wm. R. Barker.

I had measured for Prince George's county Exhibition another acre, which produced seventeen barrels and one bushel of corn, which took the premium.

Wm. R. Barker.

Dr. E. P. White, of Virginia, carried off the \$10 premium by best acre of corn, being 105 bushels 5½ quarts. It will be seen by his statement that manure will tell:

This is to certify, that the corn I offered for a premium before the Maryland Agricultural Society, in October last, grew on a deep mahogany loam, resting on a clay soil; the land had been highly improved by stable, farm-pen manures, ashes, clover and plaster. It was in wheat the year before, and was broken up very deep (say 8 inches) the middle of March, and plowed up level, furrowed off shallow at the distance of from 3½ to 4 feet in width with a seed plow. The land was in very fine tilth, and corn planted at the distance of 13½ inches the near way, and thinned to 1 and 2 stalks occasionally. The corn was a mixture of the Baden, Rollins and Alsop or twin corn; planted 30th of March, sided with a cultivator on the 23d of April, and hoed and hilled on the 27th of May with a small plow, and a few loads of manure thrown over broadcast, and in like manner plastered.

The cultivation was completed by running a light cultivator on the 7th of June, and finishing

off with the broad hoe. The yield was 105 bus., 2 gallons and 1 pint shelled corn, on one acre, and 66 bushels per acre on 5 acres.

Edmund P. White.

Mr. W. Coyle, overseer for George S. Brown, raised 19½ barrels of corn on the ear, being 97½ bushels of shelled corn per acre. He applied 15 loads of manure, 4 bushels refuse salt and used only the cultivator, after a good hoeing when it was young. Planted 3rd of May; hills 3 feet by 2 feet 6 inches. On the 10th of August, took a sample 14 feet 4 inches high with 5 ears on the stalk.

The same person grew carrots and beets successfully, as is seen by the following statement

The ground having been plowed up in the fall of '51, and limed 50 bushels to the acre, on the 20th of March, '52, hauled 20 loads of stable manure to the acre, then plowed it down to the depth of seven inches; then sowed four bushels of salt to the acre; then harrowed well, and laid it off in drills 18 inches apart; then rolled it and sowed the seed; afterwards worked them with the cultivator and hoe, and on the 18th of November, 1852, measured off 1 quarter acre, took them up and they measured 205 bushels—weight of 1 bushel 75 pounds.

Sugar beets were raised in the same way, and 1 quarter acre measured two hundred and twenty three bushels.

Mr. Whittemore, of Baltimore county, Md., raised 227½ bushels of carrots on one quarter of an acre—20 double loads of best manure applied to the light, sandy loam—laid off in beds 6 feet wide. Beds divided by drills 10 inches apart crosswise and the seed sown. The land was well and deeply prepared. After culture was to keep the ground well worked and plants thinned down to 3 or 4 inches apart in the drill."

The same gentleman raised 169 bushels of *turnips, after early potatoes*, by the application of 20 loads of best manure to the acre, the ground well pulverized. While the plants were young, the ground was kept "loose by frequent applications of a light reed harrow."

All these statements and facts were verified by the parties and those who were engaged to measure the land and crops—most of them sworn to before a magistrate.

Dr. Nichols, of Haverhill, Mass., has ascertained, from his own analyses, that the cob of Indian corn contains a considerable amount of fat-producing and flesh forming elements—more in fact, than wheat or rye straw, and they are fully equal in nutritive constituents to the best quality of oat straw.—*Cin. Grange Bulletin.*

## HORTICULTURAL.

### Summer Cultivation of Strawberries.

The *Rural Messenger*, a most excellent paper published at Petersburg, Va., after speaking of the value of this delicious fruit, says:

"In this connection the following from the pen of Mr. J. R. Young, of Norfolk county, in regard to the summer cultivation of the strawberry may be of use to some of our readers. Mr. Young is probably the largest grower of strawberries in the world, his annual shipments often amounting to 3,000,000 baskets. He says: 'For a clayey loam, liable to harden after storms, I prefer the narrow row culture, with the rows as close together as can be worked. After heavy rains, as soon as the ground has dried sufficiently, I run a fine steel-toothed harrow between the rows, just deep enough to pulverize the surface. Kept loose, there will be no baking of the crust. In working young vines I keep my cultivators going from the middle of April till the middle of October, never allowing the surface to harden, or to lie undisturbed long enough to permit the weeds to start. I do not believe in working vines the spring they are bearing. Immediately after the crops are harvested I start the cultivators and give the old vines the same treatment as the young. I very seldom carry the vines longer than three years.'"

### Currants for Profit.

I find that nothing pays better than currants. The majority of people will not be at the trouble of dusting the bushes with a little hellebore, thus losing their fruit; yet nearly every one needs and will have a few for jelly, jam, or for immediate use. The peculiar acid is invaluable in hot weather and almost every one craves it. I find no difficulty in selling all I can raise at four dollars per bushel. At three dollars they abundantly pay. It is desirable to plant the white in preference to the red varieties, as they are not seen by the birds. The most profitable varieties I should set down in the following order: White Dutch, Versailles, Cherry, Victoria. The ground should be well drained in order to prevent frost-heaving, as the bush is easily pried out when there is much freezing and thawing, with little snow. My plan is to set the bushes in rows ten feet apart, and six feet in the row. Between the rows corn or any hoed crop may be planted. In the rows plant beans or potatoes. Cultivate and hoe the whole ground. Always slightly hill the currants at the second or last hoeing. It is a good plan to have a patch of

gooseberries near the currants. The worms will appear first on the gooseberries, and can be promptly disposed of with two dustings of hellebore. They will then not appear to any extent, if at all, on the currants. It is best to apply the hellebore when there is dew on the bushes.—*E. P. Powell, in the Rural New Yorker.*

**SUNFLOWERS FOR BEAUTY AND USE.**—The sunflower is not considered a delicate flower, yet it can not be called homely—if looked at far enough off. It is a curious plant also and evidently adapted by nature for a particular purpose. It constantly turns its immense flower head to the sun, and its hairy leaves draw strongly of the moisture of the earth. It is undoubtedly a great absorber of malaria and purifier of the atmosphere, fully as much so we think, area for area, as the much vaunted eucalyptus, and therefore worthy to be planted in all malarious districts. The seed is valuable as food for fowls in winter, and also for the oil they yield. Thus it may prove a paying crop.

We do not advise planting sunflowers in the flower garden, or on the lawn, but planted between stagnant marshes and the house, its value is not merely theoretical, planted about the house in districts subjected to fever and ague and all newly settled countries are more or less so—it may prevent the recurrence of this disease. At all events they can do no harm, and may do good, and their bright golden heads are not by any means homely objects, as seen against the landscape.

**TEA CULTURE.**—Mr. Joseph Willoughby, residing about nine miles from Edenton, is raising large quantities of the very best green tea. The quality of tea has been tested by numbers; in fact, the difference cannot be told from imported tea, when placed in cups beside each other.—*Albemarle Times.*

**SHEEP DIP.**—The *Western Rural* gives the following as a good dip for sheep: Tobacco 8 lbs., oil of tar  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pints, soda ash 10 lbs., soft soap 2 lbs., water 25 gallons. Boil the tobacco, and dissolve the other ingredients in a few gallons of water, then add enough water to make up the twenty-five gallons. This will suffice for twenty-five sheep. The temperature of the water should be kept at about 70 deg. Fahr. Keep each sheep in the bath three or four minutes. This will not injure the wool.

Chew Jackson's Best Sweet Navy Tobacco.



## THE DAIRY.

### Pure Milk by the "French Method."

In the "Home and Society" department of *Scribner* for July, Joel Benton describes a new experiment of a dairyman as follows:

These glass bottles, which are sent from "Sweet-clover Farm," in Sharon, Conn., and from nowhere else in the world, are made of beautiful clear glass, and, though of daintier proportions, resemble somewhat in shape the larger champagne bottles. They are supplied with a wired rubber cork, similar to that which is used for sarsaparilla and beer bottles, and on the side of the flange of the wire, which is to be raised before the cork can be opened, a paper label is pasted overlapping the wire on the glass neck, whereon is printed the day and date on which the bottle was filled. On the base of the bottle is a general label giving the advertisement of the farm on which the method originated, and a little piece of information of which we shall presently speak. When twenty of these bottles are filled they are put into a box just large enough to hold them, separated from each other by a rack partition.

It is easy to see that milk put up in this way says to the purchaser at once, and unmistakably, "I am 'the genuine article.'" For it would be utterly impracticable to try to tamper with it. The label, which cannot be broken without detection, gives to the buyer the correct history of the contents of every bottle; and when he draws the cork he knows that the grass his milk was secreted from was cropped the day before on the slopes of lovely pastures in Litchfield County, Conn. There is no fear of chalk, of chemicals, or of water. It is the same fluid you find in the pail as it comes from the country barn.

A sentence printed on the bottles tells us that the bottling of "Milk from one Cow" is a specialty; and to young children and invalids this news becomes a pleasant proclamation. For ordinary use the combination of the milk of twenty to a hundred cows suffices, if the dairy be well kept; but under special circumstances it is desirable, and in the case of delicate infants may save life, to have the milk which is used drawn regularly from one cow. When the bottles discriminate in this way an extra label is used to designate "Cow 25," or "Cow 34," and so on.

[Perhaps some of our dairymen might find it to their advantage to adopt such a system. The extra price might be an inducement.—EDS. MD. FARMER.]

**MILCH COWS AND MILK.**—"Milch cows should be provided with shade or shelter during the hottest part of the day. They will pay you for this in the greater flow of milk. They should have access to water two or three times a day. When milk pails and dairy utensils are not properly cleaned particles of milk left in the corners and cracks decompose, and become a mass of fungous germs, which thus find an easy entrance to the milk from day to day. And as the germs are not killed by coming in contact with hot water short of 212° or boiling heat, it will be readily seen, how milk may be contaminated—even in dairies where a good deal of attention is paid to cleanliness—by the neglect of using water *boiling hot*."

*For the Maryland Farmer.*

### Donations to Maryland Agricultural College.

*Messrs. Editors:*—In addition to a valuable contribution of seeds of foreign trees, added by the Agricultural Department to our nursery, C. Henry Loney, Esq., assistant chief of the Bureau of Agriculture of the exhibition of '76, has added to the museum of the Maryland Agricultural College an interesting collection of seeds and fibres perhaps interesting to your readers.

In this labeled collection are specimens of every variety of wheat, oats, beans, corn, grasses, including "calico corn," "4 rowed barley," now sown in our country. From Spain we have walnut, black barley, red beans, locusts, maize and beans; from Brazil, tea, coffee, cocoa bean, wheat, rye and barley. Russia sends us wheat, oats, maize. From Mexico we have the original sugar corn; from California, red Sonora wheat, red Australia wheat, white and brewing barley are contributed; from Canada, Montreal and Prince Edward's barley, black oats, Nova Scotia rye and Liberia coffee are added. Tasmania sends linseed, mustard, golden tares, acacia, eucalyptus, blue grass and rape seed.

The collection of cotton fibres of the United States are from Tennessee, Texas, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi; an interesting one comes from the battle ground of New Orleans in 1812. There are others from Peru, Brazil, Algeria, Cape of Good Hope, Australia, Egypt, East and West Indies.

There are two varieties of silk from Brazil and California.

The domestic and foreign wool fibres embrace several varieties of Australian merino. From Spain, Russia and Hungary, samples of both washed and unwashed merino

are added,



An examination of the vegetable fibres gives many beautiful and ornamental results. There is a lacteal vine, which grows upon the banks of rivers in the province of Rio Janeiro and Santa Barbara, entwining itself among the forest trees which bids fair to rival flax in usefulness. Its fibres are easily separated by simple machinery and need no chemical agents to color them. From experiments it has been proved that these fibres are three times stronger than flax, and when exposed for months to inclement weather, lose no portion of their strength. In Belgium handkerchiefs and other small articles are manufactured from this vine. Its technical name is *asclepias dacea*.

Halters, ropes and many simple manufactured articles, from various barks, filaments and fibres are also sent us for exhibition.

We hope also to add considerably to the mineral collection during the summer.

Most truly yours, J. D. WARFIELD.

**How to Plow.**—In his address on plowing before the State Board of Agriculture of Connecticut, Professor Stockbridge said: "There are two kinds of soil on every man's farm—the agricultural soil and the sub-soil. The agricultural soil may be two inches deep, or it may be nine, but it is not twenty feet. It is no deeper than the air can penetrate. If the agricultural is too shallow, it may be gradually deepened by lifting an inch of the sub-soil at each plowing, bringing it up to the air and enriching it with manure. Our agricultural society committees, by their premiums for smooth, shiny, flat furrows, have done the community great harm. Such as oftenest takes the premium, is the very poorest kind of plowing. The soil is best plowed when it is most thoroughly crushed, twisted and broken with the sod well covered. On some kinds of land I would have furrows lapped an inch, as the Canadian farmers plow. Let the air and water have a chance to circulate underneath the surface. Light lands, however, should have a flat furrow if we wish to make such lands more compact.

**SHORT VS. LONG FURROWS.**—When a farmer ploughs a furrow of seventy-eight yards in length when he could as well plough a furrow two hundred and seventy-four yards in length, he is getting a waste of three hours and twenty minutes out of a day of eight hours; or, if the day's labor of men and team be reckoned at three dollars, he is losing by the short length of furrow about \$1.25 a day. This, though an extreme case, does not lessen the force of the argument,

## CUR OLIO FOR THE MONTH.

### Farm Work.

It is a common complaint that the farm and farm life are not appreciated by our people. We long for the more elegant pursuits, or the ways and fashions of the town. But the farmer has the most sane and natural occupation, and ought to find life sweeter, if less highly seasoned, than any other. He alone, strictly speaking, has a home. How can a man take a root and thrive without land? He writes his history on his field. How many ties, how many resources he has; his friendships with his cattle, his team, his dog, his trees, the satisfaction in his growing crops, in his improved fields; his intimacy with Nature, with bird and beast, with the quickening, elemental forces; his co-operations with the cloud, the sun, the seasons, heat, wind, rain, frost. Nothing will take the various social distempers which the city and artificial life breed out of a man like farming, like direct and loving contact with the soil. It draws out the poison. It humbles him, teaches him patience and reverence, and restores the proper tone to his system.

Cling to the farm, make much of it, put yourself into it, bestow your heart and your brain upon it, so that it shall savor of you and radiate your virtue after your day's work is done!—*Scribner's*

**SPIRITS OF TURPENTINE.**—One of the most useful articles for a housewife to keep on hand, is a bottle of spirits of turpentine. There are so many purposes for which it is almost indispensable, that it is wise to have it on hand. It is a sure relief for burns. A few drops in the bottom of a drawer, or on the floor of a clothes-press or wardrobe, will effectually prevent moths from inhabiting them; and a thorough application to bedsteads in the early spring will save much annoyance and hard labor through the long summer. Insects have a great aversion to the odor of turpentine, and it is sure death to those already in possession. It will drive red and black ants off the premises, if they get a foothold, the quickest of anything I ever tried. If I was troubled with roaches, I should try spirits of turpentine.

**HOW TO CURE SWELLED FEET AND ANKLES.**—Take plantain leaves (which can be found in almost any grass plat, and in our public parks); wilt them by putting separately between the hands; cover the swollen parts with them, and keep in place by wrapping the limbs with rags or a towel on going to bed at night, or keep them on during the day if not obliged to be upon the feet. A cure will be speedily effected.

## DOMESTIC RECIPES.

**TERRAPIN STEW.**—"Put in boiling water alive, and let them remain until the claws become soft; after the are cool, open them and pick out the meat, being careful not to break the gall; use only the meat and liver, claws and eggs. To one large terrapin, the yellow of three hard boiled eggs mashed very fine with one tablespoonful of flour, a little cream, salt and pepper, sherry and wine to taste. Put into a clean tin pan not quite a quarter of a pound of butter, let it melt, not allowing it to get brown; put in the terrapin (nicely picked); when warmed through pour in the dressing. Let it boil up once or twice and it is finished."

**CALVE'S FEET.**—Germans have a very good way of cooking calve's feet, far superior to the simple parsley and butter treatment. The feet are first boiled with a few herbs, salt and vinegar, till they are tender; the bones are then taken out, the feet split, egged and bread-crumbed, and either fried or baked. Fried and served with *sauce piquante* they are excellent.

## Selected.

Green beans should be put into cold water to cook.

Green peas, when to be cooked should be put into boiling water.

Yeast should be made a thick batter; it rises better than thin.

Meat for baking should be put into the oven a few minutes without water to make the gravy brown. Salt meat should be put into boiling water. Meat for a soup should be put into cold water.

Turkeys and chickens after they are stuffed can be steamed until about one half done then baked. They are much better than when entirely and wholly baked.

To take out grease or oil, wash in cold water and soap.

To take out iron rust stains, dissolve one teaspoonful of oxalic acid in two thirds of a cup of water, apply to the stains and steam the spot before the nose of the tea-kettle. If one application does not take out the spot apply the second time. Rinse, that the acid may not rot the cloth.

Receipt for coloring black. One heaping table spoonful of sal soda; one heaping tablespoonful soft soap; one heaping tablespoonful of extract of logwood; quantity sufficient to color one dress.

Receipt for coloring bright scarlet. Cream tartar, cochineal, and muriate of tin one ounce each; quantity sufficient to color one pound. Let the goods lay in the dye one hour, stirring often.

ESTHER.

**KINGS' PUDDING.**—Beat six eggs, add one quart of sweet milk, one pound of white sugar, one dozen of soda crackers four large apples cut in very thin slices, and a little salt. Spice to taste. Bake about two hours.

Take a quart of tar and three pounds of resin, melt them, bring to a cooling temperature, mix with as much coarse saw-dust, with a little charcoal added, as can be worked in; spread out while hot upon a board. When cold break up into lumps of the size of a walnut and you have, at a small expense, kindling enough for a household for perhaps a year. They will easily ignite from a match, and burn with a strong blaze, long enough to start any wood that is fit to burn.

## Practical Self-Acting Dog Law.

"Thee having not the law, are a law unto themselves."—Romans, 11 chapter 14th verse.

The combined wisdom of the legislature having repealed the "dog law," and not having given us the "better one," the above text is peculiarly applicable to the sheep-raisers of Tennessee. The merits of the law recently repealed will not be discussed, but as the sheep owners have to be a law unto themselves, the following is suggested, and when if enforced will be found to work well and effectively:

Be it resolved by the sheep-owners of Tennessee, that each and every one of them keep on hand a doubled-barrelled gun well charged with buck-shot, which will be found a "very present help in trouble"

Be it resolved. That each and every dog found upon the lands of such persons, unaccompanied by its master, be treated to the contents of said gun.

Be it further resolved, That in addition to said gun, said farmers keep also on hand a bottle of strychnine, to be sprinkled on any sheep that may be killed on the place. To provide for the weak and timid dogs that may congregate, it is best to cut the carcass into pieces of suitable size, and having put in each piece some of the contents of the bottle, scatter them around eight or ten feet so that all that may come can be accommodated.

Let all adopt this law and practice it, and it will protect the sheep and materially lessen the pets of the legislature.

To keep down disputes and fusses, never talk about killing or having killed dogs, and all will be well. It is not the killing, but the *talk* that causes trouble. "Let not your right hand know what your left doeth."—*Rural Sun*.

[The dog laws of Maryland instead of protecting sheep are practically in protection of sheep-killing dogs, hence our farmers should manfully protect their own property. Eds. MD. FAR.]



# THE MARYLAND FARMER,

A STANDARD MAGAZINE.

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture & Rural Economy.

**EZRA WHITMAN,**

Editor.

COL. W. W. W. BOWIE, Associate Editor.

141 West Pratt Street

BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE, JULY 1, 1879.

## TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION

One dollar per annum, in advance.

## TERMS OF ADVERTISING

	1 Mo.	3 Mo.	6 Mo.	1 Year.
One Square, 10 lines.....	\$ 1.50	\$ 4.00	\$ 7.00	\$ 12.00
Quarter Page.....	.50	15.00	22.50	35.00
Half Page.....	12.00	25.00	40.00	70.00
One Page.....	20.00	45.00	75.00	120.00

☞ Special rates for cover pages.

Transient Advertisements payable in advance.

☞ Advertisements to secure insertion in the ensuing month should be sent in by the 20th of the month.

## OUR TERMS FOR 1879.

One Copy, one year in advance,  
reduced to . . . . . \$ 1 00

Club Rates, 6 copies one year in  
advance, reduced to 5 00

" " 20 " " 15 00

" " 50 " " 35 00

" " 100 " " 50 00

Subscription Price for One Year, if not  
paid in advance, will be at old rate, \$1 50  
per year, and positively no deduction.

Special Premiums to Farmers, who may  
Canvass for New Subscribers.

Any person who sends us One Hundred  
Subscribers at \$1 00 each, will receive  
1 YOUNG AMERICA CORN AND COB  
MILL, . . . . . worth \$40 00

For Two Hundred Subscribers, at \$1 00  
each, we will give a Two Horse Iron  
Axle Whitewater Wagon, value \$100 00

These articles we warrant to be first-class.

# TO ADVERTISERS

The large circulation of the Maryland Farmer makes it one of the best mediums for advertisers of all classes. Its circulation will be largely increased by our reduction in the Subscription Price, and hence add to its advantages as a medium for advertisers. The terms of advertising will remain as heretofore.

The Maryland Farmer will be read this year by more Farmers, Planters, Merchants, Mechanics and others interested in Agriculture, than any other magazine which circulates in the Middle or Southern States, and therefore is the best medium for advertisers who desire to extend their sales in this territory.

☞ We call attention to our Reduction in  
Price of Subscription.

☞ Read in the advertisements for this  
month our 13 Reasons Why every Farmer  
should Subscribe for, and every Business  
Man Advertise in the Maryland Farmer.

DR. KENDALL'S valuable little book on the horse  
and his diseases, can be had at our office or sent by  
mail on payment of 25 cents.

GRAPE GROWING, ON THE SINGLE POLE SYSTEM,  
OR HOW THEY ARE CULTIVATED ON THE UPPER  
RHINE VALLEY, by A. H. Hofer. A treatise every  
grape grower should have. Price 50 cents, at our  
office or sent by mail postage paid.

☞ Our friends can do us a good turn by men-  
tioning the MARYLAND FARMER to their neigh-  
bors, and suggesting to them to subscribe for it.

## YOUNG MEN!

It is an easy way to make money by getting  
subscribers for THE MARYLAND FARMER. Send  
to cents for Specimen Copies, and ascertain what  
Liberal Commissions we will allow.



## TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS!

The reading matter in the MARYLAND FARMER will never be lessened by advertisements. We feel called upon to make this statement, as the large increasing circulation of our paper *naturally* increases the amount of advertisements, therefore we wish to say most positively to our subscribers, that the reading matter in the FARMER will always contain not less than 32 full pages monthly, and often 36 to 38; and should our advertisements reach 100 pages, it will not lessen the reading matter, but likely to increase it. We feel indebted to our correspondents for their largely increased interest in the FARMER, and we are sincerely thankful for the promptness of our subscribers in renewing their subscriptions since the commencement of the year 1879.

### To Such as are Delinquent.

Since the great reduction we have made in the subscription price to the MARYLAND FARMER, we are desirous to close up all old accounts. While most of our subscribers have been prompt in settling, yet there are many who are still in arrears. We have in this, our July number, enclosed bills to all, due to January, 1880. It is hoped and expected that replies will be promptly made, accompanied with the money, or if not convenient, at least we ask for some reply from each one who receives his bill.

Of course there are many subscribers with whom we have not the pleasure of a personal acquaintance, and to such, as to all our friends, we give a hearty invitation to call and see us at our office, or by writing become better acquainted.

It is almost an impossibility to conduct a journal properly, unless its subscribers pay promptly. This number begins the semi-annual issue of the MARYLAND FARMER, and we feel some pride in its improved appearance and solid worth over even the numbers that have lately preceded it. We feel sure that no subscriber will read it carefully without recognizing its value as far beyond the nominal amount of yearly subscription.

In addition to our earnest appeal for prompt payment of all arrearages, we beg each subscriber to exert his or her influence to secure additional subscribers. By a small effort any one can obtain enough names on the low terms we offer the mag-

azine, to secure a copy *free* for himself. The commissions we offer on subscriptions are large. Those who may be in arrears for years can surely write to us acknowledging their indebtedness even if be not possible just now to remit the whole, or a *part* of the amount due to us.

### Pearl Millet.

We little thought when we wrote our playful remarks about the pearl millet that it would occasion enough trouble to our contemporary, the *Rural New Yorker*—the peer of any weekly agricultural journal in the world—to make a response. We never said, or meant to be understood as saying the *Rural New Yorker*, or Mr. P. Henderson claimed this to be a newly discovered plant. We published Mr. Henderson's glowing description of this millet, because we have faith in all Mr. Henderson writes, recognizing him as one of the best practical writers of the day and knowing his works on gardening, &c., have been of inestimable worth to the people of the South especially. We saw with pleasure the beautiful illustrations of different millets in the *Rural New Yorker* and when we read the article of the *Planter and Grange*, we in justice to our readers gave them the benefit of its views, expunging the more offensive parts, that our patrons should not be left in error and blame us for indirectly endorsing all that was said in favor of *pearl* millet. We were in fact amused to see how a change of name from "horse" or "cat-tail" into the more attractive appellation of "pearl" could raise suddenly the price and demand for the same article. However we are sure that no money has been really lost by any who have bought the pearl millet if they followed the directions in regard to its culture and *fed it in its green state* to the cattle. It is a crop for soiling and for green manuring, the *best* we have ever known. We confess however that we never fully appreciated Southern "horse" or cat-tail millet as fully before we read the remarkable statement of our friend Henderson.

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.—"The Trustees of the Maryland Agricultural College met at the college building on the 5th ultimo. There were present Colonel Earle, Major Lee, Professor Newell, Messrs. Whitman, Dodge, McHenry and Goldsborough. After acting upon President Parker's report, the Board unanimously elected to the chair of Agriculture, made vacant by the death of the late Dr. Briggs, A. Grabowskii, now Professor of Modern Languages in the Pennsylvania State College, formerly of Wiesbedan Academy of Agriculture, Prussia, near the Rhine.

THE MARYLAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S JUNE EXHIBITION, lasted two days, and was held at the Academy of Music. The exhibition was highly creditable to the exhibitors, and deserved a larger attendance of visitors. The display of floral designs exhibited by Messrs. Feast & Sons attracted considerable attention, especially the beautiful design entitled "The Lover's Ladder." Another very pretty arrangement represented a double horse shoe surmounted by a jockey hat of red and white carnations, the nails of the shoes being represented by red rose-buds.

The exhibition was particularly notable for the variety and brilliancy of the display of cut flowers. The eye revelled also in the spectacle of the most exquisite ferns, foliage plants, palms, &c., roses, tulips, the cactus, numberless kinds of cut flowers, flowers in pots and large green plants. There were also very fine specimens of strawberries of many kinds, and of asparagus. The collection of palms and ferns offered by Mr. John W. Garrett, and that of wild flowers by Juliet Montague, collected and arranged by herself attracted particular attention. The nepenthe or pitcher plant also, though not receiving mention at the hands of the committee, was remarked from its peculiar trait of attracting and absorbing insects—the plant, possessing a kind of elongated bag with a lid, which closes on insect intruders. The list of premiums obtained were as follows: Greenhouse plants, W. H. Perot, James Pentland; ornamental and variegated foliage, R. W. L. Rasin; palms, R. J. Halliday; pelargoniums, Joseph Pentland; ferns, R. W. L. Rasin and John W. Garrett; fuchsias, Alexander Scott; lycopids, Mr. Perot, same for gloxinias; begonias, A. Scott; hydrangia, Mr. Perot; tree fern, S. Feast & Son. Cut flowers—Roses, John Saul, Aug. Hoen, John Cook, Feast & Son. Best collection, Mr. Saul; second, John Cook. Peonias, W. D. Brackenbridge; table design, John Cook. The strawberries formed a fine display alone, and attracted much attention, John Cook and J. A. Hamilton, of Govanstown, carrying off the premiums. Patterson Park received honorable mention for choice flowers in bloom; John Day and John W. Garrett and Henry Stockbridge for strawberries; Mrs. Allison for blooms of clematis; W. W. Spence special notice for remarkably fine collection of plants, in especial, a flamingo plant.

THE MONTGOMERY CO. AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will hold its annual fair for this year on their fair grounds at Rockville, Sept. 3d, 4th and 5th. The Western Maryland Society will hold its annual fair at Cumberland, October 7th 8th, 9th, 10th. It is expected that H. W. Beecher will redeem his forfeited promise of last year by being the orator on this occasion without fail.

THE GARDENVILLE DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION met on the 4th ultimo, John S. Biddison, president, H. Vernon, secretary. It was the belief of all the members present that the public are considerably the gainers by the recent agitation of the milk question, less watered milk being sold now than some time ago, while the demand for pure milk is steadily increasing. The following resolutions were adopted: That in the opinion of this association the State board of health should be empowered by law to have supervision over the sale of milk, and parties vending an impure article should be severely dealt with; that the Maryland State Dairymen's Association should become an incorporated body, with power to grant charters to local dairy associations; that the near-by dairymen should have a representation on the executive committee of the State Dairymen's Association, and that the standing committee of the Gardenville Dairymen's Association present these resolutions at the next meeting of the Maryland State Dairymen's Association.

THE MARYLAND JOCKEY CLUB'S SPRING MEETING, was all that could have been desired. The weather was peculiarly propitious. At a meeting of the club on the night of the last day of the races, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Oden Bowie; vice-presidents, Washington Booth and Edward Lloyd; treasurer, James L. McLane; secretary, I. D. Ferguson; executive committee, F. M. Hall, E. A. Clabaugh, W. H. De Coursey, Skipwith Gordon, Alex. D. Brown, Ed. Law Rogers, Ed. Patterson Jr., James Carroll, J. D. Logan, and Otho H. Williams. The officers reported that this had been the most successful spring meeting ever held by the club. It is estimated that the average attendance each day was over 4,000 people, and the receipts are nearly as large as those of some of the fall meetings. The stakes to the winners are about \$15,000.

THE JENIFER ARABIAN.—We are glad this remarkably beautiful and pure blood Arab has not been carried far from the home of his late gallant owner. He is eleven years old and sold on the last day of the Pimlico races at \$290. Frank A. Bond, Adjutant General of Maryland, was the purchaser. He will make a splendid parade horse and be of great value to breeders of fine horses in this State.

THE BALTIMORE CO. AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will hold its first meeting September 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th.



LIVE STOCK REGISTER.



MAY. ALICE. ELSIE.  
COTSWOLD EWE LAMBS AT 11 MONTHS OLD.  
Property of T. L. MILLER, Beecher Ills.



### Cotswold Ewe Lambs.

We present our readers this month the cut of three ewe lambs of the Cotswold breed, taken at eleven months, and weighing 175 pounds each. These were bred by Mr. T. L. Miller, of Beecher, Ills. His flock now numbers nearly 300 head, perhaps the choicest large flock of Cotswolds in America, all tracing direct to sheep imported from the flocks of William Lane, and Robert T. Garne, two of the oldest Cotswold breeders in England.

Mr. Miller has endeavored to demonstrate that as good stock can be raised in America as in England, and to this end, has made his selection from the best herds and flocks in England—recognizing that the foundation in this country must be the English breeds. There is this to be gained by selecting from American breeders: the stock is acclimated and is at once fit for use, while imported stock must have one year to acclimate and adapt themselves to their new condition.

When our American breeders shall work as intelligently as the English breeder, they may expect to have the preference of those who wish to improve their stock, and achieve a success that shall be satisfactory. The mutton breeds of sheep are to have an importance in this country never yet attained, growing out of the European meat trade.

*For the Maryland Farmer.*

### Sheep Husbandry.

While the sheep is not a great eater, it most delights in hillside pastures that furnish a sweet and constant feed. In turning out in spring, which may be done as soon as the young grass begins to start, exposure to storms of rain should be avoided, as well as very cold nights, as this animal will not endure severe cold storms without liability of contracting diseases that will be likely to decimate the flock. These precautions are more absolutely necessary after the wool has been clipped, and till the animal becomes accustomed to its change of condition. It is not unfrequently the case that whole flocks are nearly swept off, simply for the exposure to a cold chilling rain that comes soon after being sheared; for this reason it is well to bring them to a shelter upon the approach of storms. During summer, comparatively little care is required further than such watchfulness as may be necessary to discover any disease that might be accidentally contracted. The profit from sheep culture comes from keeping young and vigorous animals; after this animal arrives at the age of six or seven years, without extra nursing, it begins to

decline so far as a means of any profit is concerned; it then begins to shed its fleece out of season, loses a portion of its natural vigor and unless commenced in season can scarcely be fattened, and winter will usually end its days.

The successful wintering of sheep depends considerably upon the condition in which they come from the pasture; it is much easier to put on flesh with succulent pasturage, than by any ordinary course of winter feeding, and, too, it is a more economical season to put on fat in warm weather when but little is consumed for bodily heat than in severely cold weather, when there must of necessity be a considerable expenditure in order to maintain a normal condition of heat in the body.

For this reason it is not a mark of the wisest economy for any farmer to keep his sheep too long at pasturage in the fall, thinking that thereby he is making a saving of his winter forage, because in nine cases in ten, although it may not be perceptible to the eye, there is a wasting of the accumulation of fat made by the animal through the flush feeding season. So that, unless in case of a special amount of late feed, either natural, or produced by the late sowing of some forage crop, it is better to bring the animals where they can receive rations in addition to what they can secure for themselves.

And when the feed becomes considerably shortened let them be brought to the stable and fed judiciously with good hay. As one of the sources of profit is from raising lambs, the season of coupling the ram with the sheep should be so regulated as to secure early lambs, even in the winter, as the early lambs find a more ready and remunerative sale. The sheep is by no means a difficult feeder, and will do comparatively well upon ordinary hay, but at the same time enjoys a variety, and especially delight in devouring well cured aftermath. It should have feeding racks or else it will waste considerable feed by being tread upon. The best feeders usually give a little grain of some kind every day, any of which, or beans or peas they are extremely fond of, as well as bean straw, especially the dried bean pods. They should also be fed occasionally with some green food, such as turnips, Irish potatoes, carrots, or parsnips, and also with salt in order to more likely secure a healthy condition of the system. They should also be supplied with an abundance of pure water, for although they do not drink largely, their health requires that it be pure. In the most severe weather of winter they should be protected from the cold by warm stables, provided with ample ventilation, since their health demands pure air, for which reason, in pleasant and reasonably warm weather,



they should be allowed the range of a yard. In addition to the ordinary stabling there should be provision made for sick animals and for the lambing season; this has been very happily accomplished in having an apartment fitted up with little box stalls about four feet square, opening upon one side in which the animal can be closely confined if sick, or until the young lamb has attained sufficient strength to maintain a successful "struggle for existence." Since aftermath or young clover hay is believed to be an excellent milk producing feed it is well to have a supply of this in reserve for the lambing season, and if the mother is in good condition, so far as health and bodily vigor is concerned, there is but little trouble in rearing the young lambs which should be kept growing to be ready for an early market.

If these articles should be the means of, in any way, aiding any individual engaged in sheep husbandry or anticipating engaging in it, our object will have been attained.

Columbia, Conn.

WILLIAM H. YEOMANS.

### The way to Handle Sheep.

There is a right way and a wrong way, a hard way and an easy way, an awkward way and a skillful way, to catch and handle sheep. A great many men will catch the sheep by the wool on the back with both hands, and lift the animal clear from the ground by the wool only. Barbarous! Let some great giant grasp you by the hair of your head and lift you from the ground by the hair only! Would you not struggle and squirm worse than the mute sheep does when lifted by the wool? And would there not be a complaint of a sore head for a week or two? If you do not believe it try the experiment. We have slaughtered a great many sheep in years past, and when removing the pelts of such sheep as had been handled by the wool, we never failed to observe that beneath the skin wherever the animal had been caught by the wool, blood had settled. In many instances, the skin had been separated from the body so that inflammation was apparent. We have known proprietors of sheep to be so strict in regard to handling them, that he would order a helper from the premises if he were to catch a sheep by the wool on any part of the body. Some owners of sheep direct their helpers thus: "When about to catch a sheep, move carefully toward the one to be taken, until you are sufficiently near to spring quickly and seize the beast by the neck with both hands, then pass one hand around the body, grasp the brisket, and lift the sheep clear from the ground. The wool must not be pulled. If the sheep is a heavy one, let one

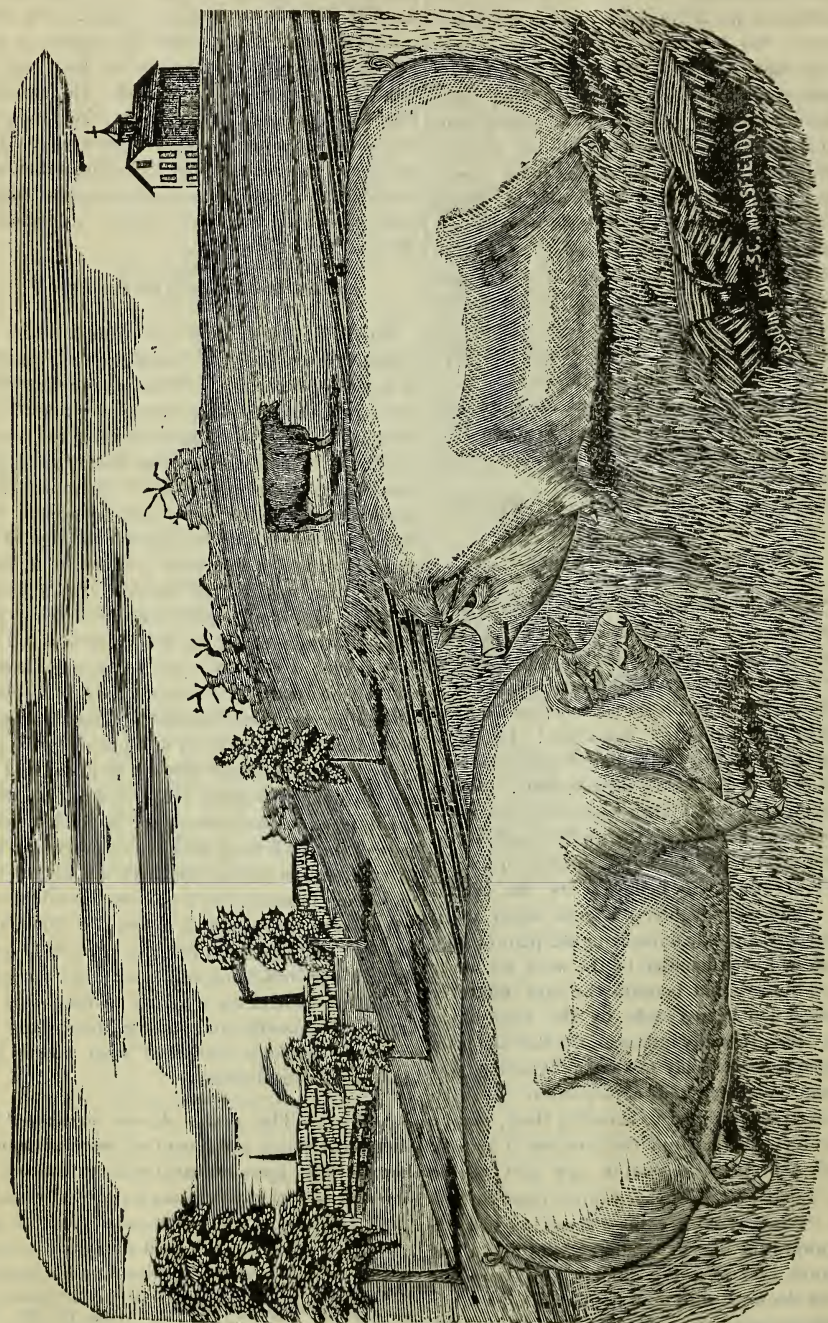
hand and wrist be put around the neck and the arm pressed against the leg." We have always handled sheep in the way alluded to. We never grasp the wool. Others seize the sheep by a hind leg, then throw one arm around the body and take hold of the brisket with one hand. But ewes with lambs should never be caught by the hind legs, unless they are handled with extreme care. When sheep are handled roughly, especially if their wool is pulled, the small bruises and injuries will render them more wild and more difficult to handle.—*Drovers Price Current.*

### How many Sheep to the Acre?

Mr. B. F. Magee in an able address before the Indiana Sheep Growers' Association in speaking of pasturing sheep says: "There is one thing about pasturing sheep that has been overlooked, viz: the damage done to the grass by being run over by the flock. While I believe one acre of good grass would keep five or may be eight sheep well, I do not believe 100 acres would keep 500 sheep. Five sheep would probably do but little damage to one acre, even though they were confined to it, for in grazing they would make but few tracks over it in a day, and would easily find fresh grass each day. But suppose we put 500 sheep in a 100 acre lot; if each five sheep would confine themselves to their own particular acre, they would probably do well in summer. But they will not do this, and right here is where theory and practice part company. Our five sheep start out to graze, and the 495 go along with them. Now a sheep is a dainty creature, and likes clean food. So the hindmost part of the flock keep pushing ahead paying little or no attention to what has been already run over, and being in each other's way, each would go over ten times as much ground, before it is filled, as it ought. And having so much more work to get its food, it does not do so well as one that can satisfy itself with little or no exertion. Going over the rail too frequently, and picking about dung and urine for grass, is doubtless what makes large flocks so liable to disease.

SHEEP. — The *Maine Farmer* says: — "Five sheep will enrich one acre of old worn-out mowing land in three years so that it will produce one and one-half tons of hay per acre for several years by a slight sprinkle of seeds each year sown in early spring. Five sheep will produce manure in winter to the value of \$10 giving them suitable bedding. Five sheep will get their living through summer on an acre of ground; the pasturing of the same would be \$3. Five sheep will raise five lambs worth \$15. Five sheep will shear twenty-five pounds of wool worth \$6."





CHESHIRE SWINE.



### Cheshire Swine.

*Editors Maryland Farmer:*—We desire to introduce to the farmers of Maryland through your valuable journal, our *beautiful Cheshire Swine*—a new variety in many of the States. They are of English origin; and by judicious breeding and most careful selection have reached the point of almost *absolute perfection in form*.

The are of good length, with broad straight backs, heavy and well rounded hams and shoulders, short heads, erect ears, deep through the chest; fine but short, strong legs, will *fatten at any age*, are good breeders, always healthy, will weigh from 300 to 500 lbs at from 8 to 12 month old, are very *kind in disposition*, and as *white as snow*. We breed them pure, and sell only for breeding purposes, and have them now just as perfect as the cut we send you. Crossed on the Berkshire, they greatly improve their *size and disposition*, and tone down what may appear too coarse in the Poland China.

We took the first premium at northern Ohio fair and at home in 1878 of \$49 on Prince Albert alone. All admirers of *pure white swine* are earnestly solicited to correspond with us for further information and for price of stock.

Hoping that this communication may interest the breeders of good stock in your enterprising State and others, we are

Truly yours, W. G. SMITH & CO,

Mansfield Richland Co., O.

June 14, 1879.

*For the Maryland Farmer.*

### Training Shepherd Dogs.

BY D. Z. EVANS, JR.

There is no breed of dogs which can more readily be taught so many desirable and useful traits as can the well bred shepherd. Those who live in the cities have, no doubt, seen on the streets the butcher or drover with his ever faithful dog, quietly and carefully driving the sheep, cattle or swine through the crowded thoroughfares, the dog invariably doing the most of the work. Many of these dogs are anything but handsome, some being real homely and not at all well feathered, but then they know how to attend to their business, and do it thoroughly, which is far better than being handsome and good for nothing useful. We know of handsome fellows owned by these drovers, dogs which could not be bought for any price, even a \$100 being no tempting offer.

While it is not a difficult matter for a careful, humane and kindly disposed person to break a shepherd dog or pup, it makes a material difference whether the sire and dam of the pup are well trained dogs, for constant working of the parents influence the pups in a marked degree, as it does with the trotting horse, qualities undoubtedly showing themselves plainly in the offspring. There are some purchasers who, when they first receive their pup, are so fond of it that they are constantly mauling and petting it, and, ere long, the pup sickens, and sometimes dies under this killing kindness. Until they are six or eight months old, they should be handled but little, merely seeing they do not get into mischief, which their active natures may inadvertently lead them into. Give them plenty to eat, but not too much meat while they are in puppyhood, give them a good, warm and comfortable house, keep them out of doors and they will thrive well. In commencing to train or handle them, it is well enough to have a well trained dog with them, but not absolutely necessary. First take your pup after he has gotten to know his name and will obey your call, with you to the fields, when you go after the stock. Do this for a number of times, not permitting him to work the stock until you get the stock accustomed to him and him to the stock, and your after work will be much easier. You can now let the pup help you drive up the stock, but do not urge him until you are sure he understands just what you mean, after which you can go on with the training in detail. When you want him to do anything, see that he does it. Be firm with him without using harsh measures. It is always best to accompany your orders with some motion of the hand, and always use the same words for each particular work you have for the pup, and he will soon learn then perfectly. Do not be in too much haste to have your pup work perfectly, or you will surely defeat your own object. Take the matter carefully in hand, use your dog with kindness, working him regularly and constantly, and you will have no cause to complain of your want of success. So advocate *making* the pup do. Our experience in handling and breeding these valuable dogs, dating back for several years, shows us that there is no need of forcing a well bred one to work, for they are always very willing to work, there being more trouble to keep them from doing too much at first than in getting and forcing them to their duty. Usually much more satisfaction is had by buying a pup than a full grown dog, for you can, by handling them yourself, make them more valuable to you, for the stock will know them and they the stock by the time they are "broken to harness."

### Shoeing Horses.

The Rev. W. H. Murray, whose advice is worth heeding, says about shoeing: The nails should be quite small and driven in more gently than is the custom. There is no reason why the smith should strike a blow at the little nail head as strong as he would deliver at the head of a spike in an oak beam. The hoof of the horse is not an oak stick, and the delicately pointed and slender headed nail is not a wrought iron spike, and yet you will see the nailer whack away at them as if it was a matter of life and death to get them entirely set in at two blows of his hammer. Insist that the nailer shall drive his nails slowly and steadily, instead of using violence. In this case, if his nail is badly pointed and gets out of proper line of direction, no great injury is done. It can be withdrawn and a new one substituted, without harm having been done the foot. But the swift, blind, and violent way prevents all such care, and exposes the horse to temporary, if not permanent injury. Gentleness should be exercised in clinching the nails. Never allow a smith to touch a rasp to the outer surface of the hoof. Nature has covered it with a thin filament of enamel, the object of which is to protect the inner membrane and fiber from exposure of water and atmosphere. The enamel is exactly what nature puts on the surface of your finger nail, reader. Under no circumstance should it ever be touched. If it is removed nature will be wickedly deprived of her needed covering, and cruelly left exposed to the elements.

FORTHCOMING REPLY TO "KENT" AND MR. WILSON, ANALYTICAL CHEMIST.—Mr. M. S. Powell of the Brown Chemical Co., of Baltimore, proposed to write a reply for this number of the MARYLAND FARMER, but was too late, and hence his article will be deferred until our August issue. Our columns are open to a courteous discussion of this question of formulas for home-made fertilizers versus the manufactured articles of trade, which is a question of interest to farmers and attracting notice at this time.

HARVEST ON EASTERN SHORE.—Dr. Wm. Henry DeCoursey of the Eastern Shore of Maryland, in a private letter to us, says: "I am in the midst of my wheat harvest with a McCormick self-binder and two six foot champion rakers, at work, endeavoring to get the wheat down as soon as possible. The prospect was good for 30 bushels per acre, but premature ripening and other causes will render the yield but indifferent."

We are much pained to announce the death of Mr. WILLIAM WALLACE PRETZMAN, son-in-law of Mr. E. Whitman, the editor and proprietor of this journal. He died of a painful disease on the 21st day of June, in the prime of manhood, being only 36 years old. He was a partner in the famous hat establishment of R. Q. Taylor & Co., of Baltimore, at the moment when his mercantile prospects were brightest, and at the threshold of a large fortune. He left two little daughters, who have lived with their grand-parents since the death of their mother.

Having known him so long, we might say a great deal in portraying his high character, but we will content ourselves by simply bearing our attestation to his indomitable energy and mercantile abilities; to his amiable character in all the relations of life and to his uncomplaining humility during his years of frequent painful sufferings. He lived honored and loved by all who knew him and died an unobtrusive, noble Christian gentleman.

BALKY HORSES.—I would prepare myself with a good strap—I want no whip; perhaps he has got a taste of that already and still he is master. But some fine day when I was at peace with myself and all around, I would hitch him to the buggy, turning his head towards the village. He goes half the way very well, indeed; then he begins to consider he has gone far enough in that direction and stops. I step down; he expects me to use the whip. He is mistaken. As a criminal I treat him on the silent system. I push him back a little out of the way. I show him the strap, putting it up to his nose. I go to the off-side and buckle it to his off fore leg, close up to the breast, throwing the other end over his shoulder; I then raise his near fore foot and fix it with the hoof nearly touching the belly. This done I say to him, "Now, old chap, you stand there." I don't smoke, so I take the *Globe* from my pocket, and finding a place where I can sit down and he see me, I begin to read. This is something he did not bargain for, and the novelty of standing on three legs somewhat diverts his mind from the cause that stopped him. I think this is the chief point to be gained, and the most humane. He now shows signs of a wish to go, but that does not suit at the time, as I have yet to look over "John Caldigate." When the strap is taken off I show it to him, caress him a little, and we move on without irritation. The strap will now become a part of the harness for a month or two, till at last the sight of it will act as a talisman.—*Toronto Globe*.



**Maryland — the Home for Immigrants— Its Advantages and Resources. Peculiar Inducements offered by each County and Section of the State for Immigrants from the Old World, and for those in our country, looking for new homes, to settle within her limits.**

For years we have at intervals written or published articles, showing the great importance of individuals or associations to set forth true statements in regard to the advantages the different sections of the State offered to immigrants, and particularly did we endorse, and aid as far as we could the movement when first made, to bring prominently before the world the inducements to fruit growers, that the Eastern Shore presented. By the combined efforts of a few, the Eastern Shore has by that means, become the garden of Maryland, and her population and prosperity has increased.

We are glad to see that this important step in the progression line to secure immigration has been lately taken in Prince George's County, by its "Forest Grange." This Grange has appointed a committee on immigration with instructions to ascertain what lands are for sale in that county and at what price. Circulars are then to be sent to all the Granges of the Union, containing a full description of such lands and the advantages offered by Maryland to farmers who desire to remove from their own States.

Almost every Middle and Southern State have Commissioners of Agriculture or Immigrant Bureaus, to collect statistics and facts as to the various resources of the State, and to publish such information as will be likely to attract the attention of persons who are looking over the country with a view of selecting a home for life and investing their money, energies, and *their all*, in such locality as may seem to their judgment most likely to suit their present purposes, and also most likely to prove in the future a profitable investment, by its value increasing with time.

We regret that Maryland has no such instrumentality by which her resources, her wants, her advantages to buyers, her great facilities of travel and transportation of produce, and the other great inducements that her climate, soil and peculiar position in the American sisterhood of States, can be properly set forth to the outside enquiring world. It is a blot on the Statute Book of the State that no such institution is this day known. Gov. Bowie, made in one of his messages, an able appeal in behalf of some such institution at a comparative small cost to the State, considering the

advantages that were likely to be the result. But this wise suggestion was ignored by the Legislature, which desired to gain a reputation for economy. What false economy!—a properly organized department agreeable to the suggestions of Gov. Bowie, would have then been the leading wedge into the great trunk of inert agriculture in the South. As it is, our State is paralyzed, while more astute legislators of the South have improved upon the idea—generously granted increased facilities, and established departments that are now working successfully, not only for the individual prosperity of the citizens, but also yearly, by their reports, bringing hundreds of immigrants from abroad and from States of the Union, bearing with them not money alone, but muscle, energy, enterprise and high intelligence, which is rapidly telling upon the intellectual, physical and monetary aggregation of the wealth of those States, who have had the foresight to see the importance of the projects submitted by the then Governor of Maryland, and since approved by the Executives of those Southern States, which are thereby rapidly recuperating.

In the absence of Legislative aid, the people of Maryland must take the matter in their own hands and as individuals unite in small clubs at first, and gradually increase the sphere of action, until not only an impression is made on legislation at home, but the desired information is communicated to the whole outside world, as to the real value of our lands and the low prices at which they can be had.

Our people must be educated to the true idea of what is really to their interest. The chief of what we are to comprehend is, that it is far better to sell half of our land at a third of its real value to men of small means who wish to buy small farms *for cash*, build and improve the same by their own labor and capital, than to sell *on time* to capitalists at full value, large farms, to be tenanted out or left idle to await the rise in real estate, which in most sections of Maryland, must invariably be the result within ten or fifteen years. We rejoice to see this individual movement started in Prince George's County, once the very banner-county of the State. We shall do all we can to further this laudable undertaking. We shall in furtherance of this project, contribute monthly, as far as personal observation and the collection of statistics from reliable sources will enable us, furnish full details of the resources of every county in the State, showing the advantages it possesses and the inducements it offers to persons of every class who may wish to settle within the borders of "My Maryland."

Our intention is to try and carry out our views

so lately seconded by our grange-friends of the "Forest of Prince George's", as far as it is possible for the MARYLAND FARMER to do, in giving useful information regarding each section of the State as fast as we acquire such knowledge as we can rely upon, without regard to the alphabetical or other order in which the counties may be classified. To accomplish this, we rely upon our friends in the different counties to furnish us with such data as may be in their possession to enable us to better perform this "labor of love." We cannot wait for the slow movements of politicians, who would rather build palatial residences for convicts and scamps, than have the State expend \$10,000 per annum in support of an Agricultural Department like that of Georgia, Virginia or North Carolina, which pays back by its instructions, twenty-fold to the State, and by spreading abroad its frequent statements of the hidden resources of wealth within its boundaries, attract hundreds of settlers, whose aggregate wealth adds in a few years, millions to the taxable property of the State.

We take,—for the reason that it is the first county in the State to inaugurate this initiative step—Prince George's County. This is one of the earliest settled counties in the State, and was one of the richest and most noted counties in the State, up to the late unhappy war. The sequences of that war sapped the foundations of its wealth and power. Owing to its propinquity to the capital of the Nation, it suffered first and last, more than any other section of Maryland, and hence her lands, still rich and improvable, have been neglected and can be bought now for a tenth of the price they brought prior to the war. The same lands which were held at \$80 per acre, have sold and can be bought now for \$20. Prices now range from \$5 to \$50 per acre.

This county is peculiarly happy in its locality; lying between the Potomac and Patuxent Rivers; has navigation all along its borders to Baltimore, Washington and Annapolis. From her territory a large portion of the District of Columbia was taken to form the nation's ten miles square for the capital of the United States. This county possesses remarkable geographical advantages. The water-power in its limits is incalculable,—at small expense of dams, million of spindles and hundreds of mills, such as cotton, woolen, grist and saw mills can be successfully driven by water. Prince George's county can be made a great vegetable and fruit garden to supply the capital of the Nation, the capital of the State and Baltimore, the great southern emporium of southern trade. There are three railroads passing through this county; the branch of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad from

Baltimore to Washington; the Baltimore and Potomac railroad running through the centre of the county from Baltimore to the Potomac River and the Southern railroad from Point Look Out—the best port (except Newport of New England) on the Atlantic coast—to be connected this year with the Baltimore and Potomac railroad from its terminus to either Baltimore or Washington.

The climate is healthy; the soil of the best quality adapted to tobacco, corn, grass, horticultural production of every sort, and easily worked, free from stone or other impediments to thorough cultivation.

There are at Laurel—a considerable village, or rather incorporated town—cotton, grist and saw mills, an iron foundry, machine shop, and at Muirkirk, a large furnace for reducing iron ore to iron pigs and iron bars, &c. In other parts of the county there are many small manufactures and mills of different sorts. There are in this county, some twenty or thirty small but thriving little towns or settlements, market gardens, fruit growing-farms and nurseries. The whole territory is rich in timber, minerals—chiefly iron—banks; where the soil is not fertile, we find brick clay, pipe clay, and clay for fire proof brick, &c., of the best quality. The larger portion is well watered, wooded and capable of the highest state of fertility at the smallest cost of labor or outlay of money. In truth it is an Eden, rich in historic lore and very desirable on every account, for a permanent residence of persons who have a small capital to invest.

---

THE KELLY STEEL BARB FENCE WIRE.—A specimen of this wire for fencing is now on exhibition at our office, sent by the 'Thorn Wire Hedge Company of Chicago. It is said to be the cheapest and most effective wire fence in the country. A Maryland gentleman, who is a civil engineer, told us on seeing it, that last year while superintending the completion of a railroad in the far-West, he had over six miles of fence of this wire along the road erected under his supervision. He says it is very popular in the West, although there was at first some prejudice against it. Fences are so costly, that it would be well for farmers to call and examine this wire and learn the particulars. An incredible amount of it is sold yearly and hence it must be popular, especially where fence-stuff is scarce.

---

OUR thanks are due the Hon. Robert M. McLane, of Maryland, for a copy of his able and telling speech on "Official Contributions for Political Purposes," which called forth so many interruptions and questions from his opponents,



## LADIES DEPARTMENT.

### Chats with the Ladies for July.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

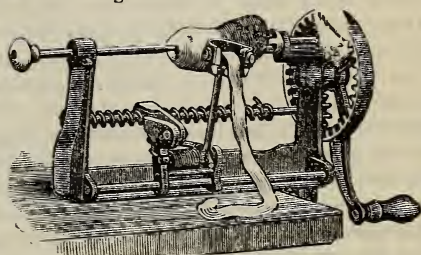
'Tis *beauty* that doth oft make women proud ;  
'Tis *virtue* that doth make them most admired ;  
'Tis *modesty* that makes them seem divine.

I shall, I hope, be pardoned for a few plain words to mothers about the dress of their little girls. Let me beseech them not to yield to the fashion of dressing their daughters in the absurd style so prevalent—clothes just to the knee and long, colored stockings, fastening above the knee,—the latter practice may be good, but the idea of a tall, 12 or 14 year old girl, being a mark for vulgar criticism as to the shape of her legs, is odious to an old man of the days when virtue, and honesty and high toned honor reigned. It is worse than the lascivious waltz, so reprehended by the great German Shakespeare Goethe. What a figure they cut when they sit down in their short gowns and petticoats! Mothers, keepers of women's honor, I do earnestly entreat you to reject this custom. It will, it *must* lead to unpleasant consequences. It will demoralize the youth of the other sex, while it gives boldness, and teaches a disregard to modesty on the part of those gentle beings who should be the exemplars of refinement and modesty. The secretion of a woman's charms is the great attraction of men. The hidden fruit is supposed always to be more valuable. She who conceals her beauties has credit for more than they are probably worth. The jewels that are paraded before the public eye soon become common and never sought for by those who look for rare treasures, too precious for the public gaze.

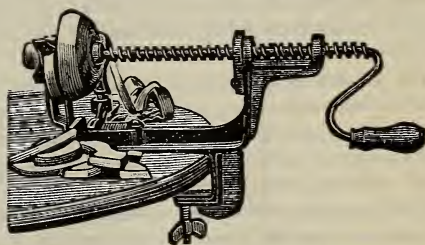
I write this, because as a lover of womankind, though an old man, I have seen lately this odious habit of dressing pretty misses, 12 to 14 years of age, with flowing hair and rounded forms, in this disgustingly lascivious mode. Girls should be dressed in long clothes, tight about the neck, with white aprons, and their hair tied or neatly plaited, while they go to school. Taught humility in *dress* as well as in behavior. Virtue, honor, truth, industry, neatness, and above all, *religion*, be daily and hourly indoctrinated into their pure minds by parents, guardians, and teachers, until they are fitted for the duties of mistress of a household, mothers of children and companions for husbands. I must be allowed to say, girls dressed according to the fashions and indulge as they are at the present time will never, or *very rarely*, fill properly those responsible duties, either to the requirements of society as to their children, to the perfect satis-

isfaction of their husbands, or to their own novel-reading expectations of what constitutes marital happiness.

As the time is coming when cucumbers, tomatoes and potatoes for "Saratoga potatoes," are to be sliced, and when fruit is to be dried, or canned, &c., a few suggestions will not be out of place. Among the sundry fruit dryers, cherry stoners, &c., which are in the market, the most simple and perfect little implements for paring and slicing potatoes for frying, and for doing the same for cucumbers, &c., and fruits, I have seen at Messrs. Whitman, Sons & Co., from whom I got the following cuts illustrating two of the machines.



Potato Parer. Price \$1 50



Apple Parer and Slicer. Price \$1.

These should be in every household, to save time and labor, and give greater accuracy in such work which is often tedious and bunglingly performed.

THE MARYLAND STATE DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS.—This association, of which Hon. Charles B. Roberts is President, met in Baltimore on Friday, the 23d ult. A large number of prominent dairy farmers of the State and others, were present. Addresses were made by Prof. Richard McSherry, Dr. E. M. Schaeffer and Dr. C. A. Leas. Dr. W. C. VanBibber read a paper on the adulteration of milk. A resolution was adopted looking to the formation of local protection associations throughout the State.—The objects sought to be attained by the association are laudable. They are to protect dairymen from loss by selling milk to irresponsible or dishonest dealers, and to prevent, if possible, the sale of adulterated or impure milk.

*For the Maryland Farmer.*

### The Strawberry Field.

"When the months of Spring are fled,  
Hither let us bend our walk,  
Lurking berries, ripe and red;  
Then will hang on every stalk,  
Each within its leafy bower,  
For such promise, spare the flower."

It was a bright May morning, bright and beautiful, the sunbeams shone with dazzling brilliancy on the waving fields, the birds trilled forth their morning song, and heaven smiled throughout its azure depths—it was a sight well worth coming to see: a strawberry field in its full perfection; it was a mimic world itself. I thought as I stood enjoying its beauty, and watching the busy workers, there were strawberries all around me, strawberries to the right, strawberries to the left, ripe berries, red berries, green berries and white blossoms. The noisy drivers with their loaded wagons, the bright red fruit glowing through the crates, the packers who were so daintily turning over the lucious berries "*right side up with care.*" Although the proprietor assured me he did not "*face up his fruit,*" it run alike all through," yet after amusing myself awhile, watching the process of packing, I concluded at least their faces were *touched up and beautified.*

The pickers were scattered in every direction over the field, and as they come up with their baskets, each receiving checks for their numbers. There seemed a great deal of competition among them, and they vainly endeavored to cheat the watchful eye that never seemed to lose sight of them. Human nature is the same everywhere, and the strawberry field seemed to be no exception. Some were earnest workers, never stopping a moment; others were singing merrily, as though it were only a holiday pastime to them.

There was a mother surrounded by a group of little children, she was encouraging them to work, by promises of new clothes. "Will I get my shoes by Sunday?" I heard a bright-eyed little urchin say. "I hope so; if you work as well to-morrow, I will get your jacket myself." "Will you get mine, too," *and mine,* clamored the little ones around her. "Yes, I will try; but we must all do the best we can." "I have more baskets than you," I heard a bare-foot lad say, to a bright, coquettish young girl, as I passed them. "Here, Allie, you take these of mine, then we'll be just even," a bright look and sweet smile, was his reward. Merry groups of boys and girls who seemed to think it all good fun. I saw one who seemed a stranger to all around he had the look and air of a gentle-

man. How come such a man as that here? None could tell. Then a young girl, beautiful in spite of her rags, "beautiful enough for a seraph, poor and beautiful, *God help her.*"

I stopt by the side of one, I expected to find there, poor Mary; I little thought as we sat at the same desk at school and wove bright dreams of the future, it would come to this. Life is no rosy dream for you, only a brooding nightmare, "she starts at a distant footstep, trembles at a muttered curse, and reels under a brutal blow, yet, woman-like, loves on."

Farther on, with ragged skirts, mud begrimed feet and ankles, tangled mosses of hair falling over a face ploughed deep with time and trouble, a wretched woman was just looking upward;—perhaps the sweet morning song of the birds had touched some chord in that callous heart, and brought to mind happier days, when "Plenty sat at the board, and Love guarded the threshold." Oh! who can tell but that the birds sung her the requiem of blighted love and blasted hopes.

"Oh! how much of joy—how much of sorrow  
In each heart's unwritten history."

The hours passed on, the sun rose high in the heavens, and I turned away with sadder thoughts than I entered that strawberry field; how reality and romance go hand in hand adown life's pathway.

"But of all sad words of tongue or pen,  
The saddest are these, it might have been."

WICOMICO.

Salisbury, June 12th.

### PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"THE CHILD'S DELIGHT," is the title of a new monthly magazine, printed by J. Wesley Smith, 141 West Pratt Street, Baltimore, Md. Its typography, illustrations and entire make up would do credit to the largest publishing house of the North. Its matter deserves such an elegant dress, as it is truly a "*Child's Delight*" and a joy. The entire contents are from the graceful, facile pen of Miss L. K.—an accomplished writer and highly educated Southern lady lately from New Orleans. It richly deserves a place on the book table of every home that is blessed with children. Price, only \$1.10 per year.

FROM Orange Judd & Co. N. Y. "Quinby's New Bee Keeping," price \$ 1.50 post paid. The latest and best book yet published for those engaged or about to engage in Apiculture on either a large or small scale. It is profusely illustrated and admirably written, treating fully of all the newest improvements and practices in bee-keeping.



"MOORE'S RURAL LIFE" is the title of a new candidate in the journalistic field, edited by D. D. T. Moore, the founder of the Rural New Yorker. It is a monthly and is devoted to the interests of "the numerous city, suburban, village and country residents who cultivate limited areas for either profit or pleasure, and take pride in surrounding and adorning their homes with the useful and beautiful in nature and art." The first number, dated June 1st, 1879, is a handsome one. It has been carefully edited, and is handsomely illustrated with numerous engravings to illustrate the text. Mr. Moore has wisely chosen an open field, and we have no doubt he will fully occupy it. Subscription price \$1.50 per year, or 15 cents per number. Address Moore's Rural Life," 34 Park Row, N. Y.

### Maryland Agricultural College.

The commencement exercises of the Maryland Agricultural College began on the 22d and ended the 24th of June. On Sunday a baccalaureate sermon was preached in the chapel by Rev. James B. Averitt, and on Monday there was an address by John B. Gray, Esq., and an enjoyable dramatic entertainment was given by the students, there being several musical selections and a French play. Yesterday the regular commencement exercises took place. There were quite a number of prominent people present from Baltimore, Washington and the country around the college. The exercises opened at 11 o'clock with prayer by Rev. J. B. Williams, of Bladensburg and a salutatory address was delivered by Mr. J. Truxton Houston. After the salutatory there was a declamation contest for a prize gold medal, given by Prof. Warfield of the college. C. W. Whiting, R. S. Mercer, J. Matthews and W. H. Thomas were the contestants, the medal being carried off by R. S. Mercer, who recited "The Vagabond," in splendid style. There was another contest for a prize medal, presented by President Wm. H. Parker, for the best essay upon agriculture, entered by John Matthews, "Essay upon Stock," Arthur Easton, "Manures," William Thomas, "Feeding of Crops," T. T. Houston, "Improved Cattle," and Samuel Cissel, "Restoration of Soils." This was carried off by Mr. Cissel, who showed in his essay a thorough knowledge of the subject which he treated. The medal for the highest scholarship during the year was also awarded to Mr. Cissel. After the ceremony of presentation, Col. J. Barron Hope, of Norfolk, Va., delivered an address to the students, his subject being 'Washington as an Agriculturist.' The degree of Master of Arts was then conferred

upon John B. Gray, of Calvert county, Md., and the degree of Master of Sciences was conferred upon J. Blair, of Baltimore. At 1 o'clock a dress-parade took place on the grounds, and the cadets showed to great advantage before the guests. A grand ball was held at night at the college.

We find in the Petersburg *Rural Messenger* the following recipes valuable to owners of live stock, from the pen of our old and valued correspondent Col. Ware, whose great experience gives weight to whatever he writes:

**CURE FOR FISTULA BEFORE IT BREAKS.**—Take the following, which are to be well mixed and dissolved in a bottle:

- 12 ounces alcohol.
- 1 ounce spirits turpentine.
- 1 ounce corrosive sublimate.
- 1 ounce camphor gum.
- 1 ounce Castile soap.
- 1 ounce aqua fortis.

It is severe, and the horse should be well haltered. Shake the bottle well before using and apply once a day. Two applications have effected a cure. If the hair comes off it will grow again the same color.

J. W. WARE.

**REMEDY FOR SORES, WOUNDS, AND BRUISES.**—Take the following mixture, to be applied twice a day, with a feather, always shaking well before using:

- 1 quart flaxseed oil.
- 1 pint strong vinegar.
- 2 ounces saltpetre.
- 1½ gill spirits turpentine.

Put together in in a vessel till dissolved. One application nearly relieves the soreness. It will take the hair off but it will grow again the same color. This was given me by an old English groom and is invaluable.

J. W. WARE.

**MARYLAND HEREFORDS FOR OHIO.**—Hon. John Merryman, of Hayfields, on Wednesday, June 18th sold to Mr. W. H. Todd, of Vermillion, Ohio, Hereford cows "Bessie" and "Sally," and heifers "Butter Cup" and "Margaret." They were drawn from the herd by Mr. Merryman, and do not represent the best by any means, but are very choice and of highest pedigree. The sale aggregated \$800. Mr. M. finds the demand for his Herefords far beyond his capacity to supply. We learn that is the case also with Mr. Miller, the great breeder of Hereford cattle in Illinois, whose herd bull for the present is "76," bred by Mr. Merryman, of Maryland; the portrait of this splendid animal was published in the MARYLAND FARMER for June. There is at present a very great demand for Herefords of pure blood, to go West and South,

### New Advertisements.

Mr Geo R Northam, offers for sale or exchange a fine Stallion, with a prime pedigree for a trotter, his sire being a son of Blackhawk, and his dam, a pure thoroughbred from the famous stud of Col. Brown of Virginia.

Wm Parry, of Cinnaminson, N J, advertises fruits and nursery stock of all kinds from his old famous "Pomona Nursery."

Fearless Railway Threshing Machine.—We call the attention of farmers and threshermen to the advertisement of the Fearless Horse Power and Thresher and Cleaner, elsewhere in this number of our paper. This machine is the only one that received an Award on both Horse Power and Thresher and Cleaner at the Centennial Exhibition, Philadelphia, and ranks as best of its class. An Ex-President of the New York State Agricultural Society said of Harders' Machines, 'they are the best ever made,' and the same testimony has been borne by equally good authority time and again. For further information send to Minard Harder, Cobleskill, N. Y.

W. J. Vannort, Pure Poland China Pigs, Fowls, and Southdown Bucks.

Dr. W. H. DeCoursey, Hereford Cattle and Shropshire Sheep.

Hirshberg, Hollander & Co., Paints, Oils, Brushes &c.

John A. Jones, Polished Steel Drill Points.

John S. Reese, Agent for the Pacific Guano Co., offers Pacific Guano, Phosphates and Bones.

Henry Ewalt, Wall Papers and Window Shades &c.

### FARM LAW.

#### WHAT A DEED OF A FARM INCLUDES

Of course every one knows it conveys all the fences standing on the farm, but all might not think it also included the fencing stuff, posts, rails, etc., which had once been used in the fence but had been taken down and piled up for future use again in the same place (2 Hill. 142). But new fencing material just bought and never attached to the soil would not pass (16 Ill. 480). So piles of hop poles, stored away, if once used on the land have been considered a part of it (1 Kernan, 123); but loose boards or scaffold poles laid loosely across the beams of the barn and never fastened to it would not be, and the seller of the farm might take them away (1 Lans. 319). Standing trees, of course, also pass as part of the land; so do trees blown down or cut down and still left in the woods where they fell (54 Me, 309), but not if cut and corded up for

sale; the wood has then become personal property.

If there be any manure in the barn-yard, or in a compost heap on the field, ready for immediate use, the buyer ordinarily takes that also as belonging to the farm; though it might not be so, if the owner had previously sold it to some other party and had collected it together in a heap by itself (43 Vt. 95). Growing crops also pass by the deed of a farm, unless they are expressly reserved, and when it is not intended to convey those, it should be so stated in the deed itself; a mere oral agreement to that effect would not be valid in law (19 Pick. 315). Another mode is to stipulate that possession is not to be given until some future day, in which case the crops or manure may be removed before that time.

As to the buildings on the farm, though generally mentioned in the deed, it is not absolutely necessary they should be. A deed of land ordinarily carries all the buildings on it belonging to the grantor, whether mentioned or not; and this rule includes the lumber and timber of any old building which has been taken down or blown down, and been packed away for future use on the farm (41 N. H., 503, 30 Penn. St. 185).

But if their be any buildings on the farm built by some third person, with the farmer's leave, the deed would not convey these, since such buildings are personal property and do not belong to the land owner to convey. The real owner thereof might move them off, although the purchaser of the farm supposed he was buying and paying for all the buildings on it. His only remedy in such case would be against the party selling the premises. As part of the buildings conveyed, of course the window blinds are included, even if they be at the time taken off and carried to a painter's shop to be painted. It would be otherwise if they had been newly purchased and brought into the house, but not yet attached or fitted to it. (40 Vt., 233). Lightning rods also go with the house, if a farmer is foolish enough to have any on his house. A furnace in the cellar, brick or portable (4 E. D. Smith, 275), (39 Conn. 362), is considered a part of the house, but an ordinary stove with a loose pipe running into the chimney is not (24 Wend. 191), while a range set in brick work is (7 Mass. 432). Mantel pieces so attached to the chimney as not to be moved without marring the plastering go with the house, but if merely resting on brackets they may be taken away by the former owner without legal liability (102 Mass. 517). The pumps, sinks, etc., fastened to the building are a part of it in law (99 Mass. 457), and so are the water pipes connected therewith bringing water from a distant spring (97 Mass. 133). If the farmer has iron kettles set in brick work near his barn for cooking food for his stock, or other similar uses, the deed of his farm covers them also (19 Pick. 314), as likewise a bell attached to his barn to call his men to dinner (102 Mass. 513). If he indulges in ornamental statues, vases, etc., resting on the ground by their own weight merely, and sells his estate without reservation, these things go with the land. (12 N. Y. 170).—*Judge Bennett.*